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TUESDAY, MAY 31, 2022

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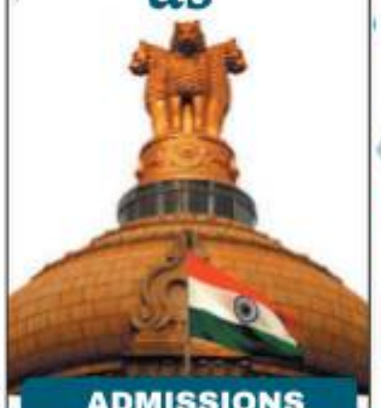

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BENGALURU
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Cannot keep quiet on Naga issue, BJP tells NSCN
page 8

Fuel retailers in 22 States will not lift stocks today
page 8

21 bodies recovered from Nepal plane crash site, one still missing
page 11

Rune stuns Tsitsipas; Djokovic vs Nadal quarterfinal today
page 13

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NEARBY

Writers resign from government panels

BENGALURU

A host of writers have resigned from government committees and bodies in protest against the recent controversy over textbook revision, and lack of action against the textbook review committee chairperson Rohith Chakrathirtha.

KARNATAKA ▸ PAGE 4

BBMP ward quota: Cabinet decides on Ordinance route

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

In light of the Supreme Court order to hold elections to the BBMP council, the Cabinet on Monday decided to fix reservation that will not exceed 50% by amending the BBMP Act through an Ordinance.

The Cabinet that met here discussed the reservation matrix for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and decided to amend the Act through an Ordinance, sources said, adding that the reservation matrix for SC/ST/OBC will not exceed 50%.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 3

Singer's killing planned from Tihar jail: police

A few suspects rounded up for Moosewala's murder

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHANDIGARH/NEW DELHI

Murder trail: Forensic team and police personnel inspecting Sidhu Moosewala's vehicle in Mansa on Monday. • PTI

The Punjab Police on Monday rounded up a few people in connection with the killing of Punjabi singer Shubhdeep Singh Sidhu, known as Sidhu Moosewala, for questioning, and said they had collected vital leads.

Moosewala was shot dead at Jahawarke village in Mansa district on Sunday, a day after his security cover was trimmed. The incident has put the Aam Aadmi Party government on the back foot over the law and order situation in the State as the Opposition parties launched an offensive against the AAP.

Inspector-General of Police (Faridkot Range) Pradeep Yadav told pressperson that an investigation was under way and a few people had been rounded up for questioning. "We have vital leads and we are working on that," he said.

Mr. Yadav said it apparently looked like gangsters were behind the incident.

Police sources said CCTV footage was being analysed to find out the suspects. Forensic experts were being roped in to further develop on clues. Also, searches were being conducted across the State and outside, and possible suspects were being rounded up. According to the Punjab police, "The Lawrence Bishnoi gang has claimed the responsibility for the killing through its Canada-based operative."

Interrogation in jail

Sources in the Delhi Police's special cell said jailed gangster Bishnoi and his associates were being interrogated as they were said to have hatched the plan from inside the Tihar jail.

A senior police officer said Bishnoi, lodged in Tihar's jail number 8, was in touch with several of his associates in planning Moosewala's murder. The officer said: "The gangsters, all Bishnoi's associates, are suspected to have planned the murder. They used to talk to Goldy [Brar], who further used to communicate with other gang members outside the jail." The officer said Brar used to make calls from Canada and as of now, the police were trying to trace his exact location.

The police officer added that a preliminary probe had revealed that Bishnoi had taken his associate Kala Jathedi's or his other associates' help to communicate with Brar in Canada. Jathedi, who had earlier been arrested by the Delhi police in connection with several cases of murder and extortion, is currently in police custody and will be interrogated about the singer's murder.

The Punjab government announced a judicial commission under the chairmanship of a sitting judge of the Punjab and Haryana High Court to probe the murder.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 8

Rakesh Singh Tikait attacked in city

Television mic used against him, black ink also thrown at him; three detained

BENGALURU BUREAU
BENGALURU

A video grab of Rakesh Singh Tikait being attacked with ink in Bengaluru on Monday.

Farmers' leader Rakesh Singh Tikait, who was in Bengaluru to address a press conference at Gandhi Bhavan on Monday, was attacked by a group of three men out of the blue during the event.

As he was seated on the dais and another farmers' leader was addressing the media, a man rushed to the stage and attacked Mr. Tikait with a television mic.

Before Mr. Tikait recovered from it, another man threw black ink on him. One of the attackers shouted slogans saying, "Modi, Modi". Other farmers rushed to catch the culprits. As they tried to flee, some threw chairs at them and they were soon caught and handed over to the police. Mr. Tikait was in the city to address allegations made by another farmers' leader - Kodihalli Chandrashekhar - in a sting operation recently aired by a Kannada news channel. Mr. Chandrashekhar had allegedly claimed Mr. Tikait had been trying to broker an end to the 13-month-long farmers' movement0 in New Delhi by taking money and colluding with the Centre.

The police have detained three persons.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 4

Women top Civil Services exam

Shruti Sharma, Ankita Agarwal and Gamini Singla secure first three ranks

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Joy unlimited: Civil Services exam topper Shruti Sharma flanked by her mother and grand mother. • R.V. MOORTHY

Women secured the top three ranks in the 2021 Civil Services examinations conducted by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC). The results were declared on Monday.

Shruti Sharma, Ankita Agarwal and Gamini Singla have secured the first, second and third ranks respectively. Among the top 25 successful candidates, 10 are women.

A total of 685 candidates, including 177 women, were recommended by the Commission for appointment to the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), Indian Foreign Service (IFS), Indian Police Service (IPS) and Central Services – Group A and Group B.

The successful candidates include 73 from the Economically Weaker Section (EWS) category, 203 belong to the Other Backward Class (OBC), 105 are from the Scheduled Caste (SC), 60 from the Scheduled Tribe (ST) and 244 candidates from the general categories.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 8

Toppers recall long journey

The three women who topped the UPSC examination believe that it is a long, challenging journey and that only those who genuinely have interest in the field should partake in it. ▸ PAGE 10

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NEWS IN NUMBERS

The third player ever

3 Canadian ninth seed Felix Auger-Aliassime became the third player in history to have dragged Rafael Nadal to the fifth set at the Roland Garros. Nadal has played 112 matches in the tournament so far, of which only Novak Djokovic in May 2013 and John Isner in May 2011 have managed to take him to the fifth set. Notably, Nadal won both the matches. Nadal has lost only three of these 112 encounters. Twice to Djokovic — May 2021 (semi-finals) and May 2015 (quarter-finals) and once to Robin Soderling in May 2009 (round 16). TENNIS ABSTRACT

Ukraine's grain drain

48.3 In million tonnes (MT), the amount of grain that is estimated to be harvested by Ukraine in 2022, according to APK-Inform agriculture consultancy. In 2021, Ukraine harvested a record 86 MT. The drastic drop is attributed to the Russian invasion. The 2022 harvest includes 17.1 MT of wheat and 25.2 MT of corn. The reduction in harvest gave countries like India a chance to fill the void. However, due to excess heat and internal commitments, India recently banned wheat exports. AGENCIES

Plans to cut coal usage

81 The number of coal-fired utilities in which India is planning to reduce power generation over the next four years, in an effort to replace expensive thermal generation with cheaper green energy sources. India faced a crippling power crisis in April, when a surge in power demand led to a scramble for coal, forcing the country to roll back plans to cut thermal coal imports to zero. An increase in peak power consumption during the night when solar power is not available has made phasing out coal-fired generation a big challenge. REUTERS

More tax for Oil corps?

65 In ₹, the approximate amount the Central government earns in taxes on every ₹100 that the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) earns. The ONGC annually spends ₹30,000-32,000 crore to maintain output from ageing fields and in finding new reserves. The ONGC and Oil India Ltd (OIL) reported bumper profits in the March quarter (when international prices soared to a near 14-year high of $139 per barrel) and record earnings in 2021-22, triggering talks of the government slapping a windfall tax. PTI

Helping hand

700 In $ million, the amount the World Bank is planning to disburse to crisis-ridden Sri Lanka by re-purposing its existing loans. This move will give the island nation, grappling with an unprecedented economic crisis, much-needed breathing space till a bailout package with the International Monetary Fund is worked out. Sri Lanka is nearing bankruptcy and has severe shortages of essentials such as food, fuel, and medicines. For months, citizens have been forced to stay in long lines to buy limited stocks. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

EXPLAINER

The status of Russia's invasion of Ukraine

As of now, how much of Ukrainian territory is in Russian hands? What lies ahead for both countries vis-a-vis the conflict?

THE GIST

- Russia controls from the south, the city of Kherson and the nuclear plant near Zaporizhzhia. In the eastern Donbas region, they have taken almost all major cities including Mariupol. They are currently advancing towards Severodonetsk.
- Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on Monday that the "liberation" of Donbas was Russia's "unconditional priority". If Mr. Lavrov should be trusted, Russia is likely to shift its focus to the Ukraine-controlled parts of Donetsk once Severodonetsk is fully in its control.
- Both Russia and Ukraine have held multiple rounds of talks, since the war began, but there has been no breakthrough. Russia stated in April that the talks were "at a dead end", adding that "Ukraine is not serious about ending the conflict".

STANLY JOHNY

The story so far: Three months after Russia started the invasion of Ukraine, its troops are making slow but steady advances in the eastern Donbas region. Russia has faced stiff resistance from the Ukrainian troops from day one and the crisis has snowballed into a larger security contest between Moscow and the West, which has pumped money and weapons to Ukraine. With no peace talks on the table and neither side showing any signs of compromise, the war is likely to grind on for many more weeks, if not months.

What's the current status of the invasion?

Russia started the war on February 24 on three fronts – its troops moved in from the Belarussian border in the north, from the separatists-controlled parts of Donbas in the east and from the Russian-controlled Crimean peninsula in the south. While announcing his "special military operation", President Vladimir Putin said "demilitarisation and de-Nazification" of Ukraine were his goals. It's anybody's guess whether Russia wanted to capture Kyiv and bring in a regime change. But clearly, at least as part of their war strategy, the Russians sought to envelope Kyiv, while its troops attacked cities in the east and south. While its forces made gains in the east and south, they faced stiff resistance from the Ukrainian forces in the north and northeast. As its advances slowed down, Russia pulled back troops from around Kyiv, ending its efforts to envelope the city, and retreated from Kharkiv, Ukraine's second largest city which lies about 40 km from the Russian border, and focussed its resources on the east.

The southern city of Kherson had fallen into Russian hands in the initial days of the war. From the south, Russian troops have moved towards the outskirts of Zaporizhzhia, taking over the eponymous nuclear plant, the largest in Europe. In the eastern Donbas region, the Russians have taken almost all major cities. They took Mariupol, a Sea of Azov port city known for its steel plants, last month after a prolonged siege. They took Lyman in Luhansk last week while advancing towards Severodonetsk, the easternmost city in Ukrainian hands.

As of Monday, pro-Russia media have claimed, quoting Chechen leader Ramzan Kadyrov, that the Russians have seized Severodonetsk. The Ukrainian authorities have contested this claim, but independent reports confirm that the Russians have entered the city. Faced with the likelihood of being encircled in the east, Ukrainians troops hinted last week that they might make a tactical retreat to bolster their defences elsewhere.

What does Russia want?

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on Monday that the "liberation" of Donbas was Russia's "unconditional priority". Donbas, the traditional industrial region that has historical ties with Russia, encompasses Ukraine's Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts (now, self-declared Luhansk and Donetsk People's Republics, which were recognised by Mr. Putin as sovereign states before ordering the invasion). Russia has already taken almost all of Luhansk.

Severodonetsk (it was the capital of the Ukrainian-controlled parts of Luhansk), is the only major city where there is still Ukrainian presence in the oblast (province) and all reports indicate that the city would be in complete Russian control within days, if it hasn't already fallen.

Russia and the separatists it backs have also taken a sizeable part of Donetsk, including Mariupol, which allowed Moscow to establish a land bridge from the Russian mainland to Crimea along the coast of the Sea of Azov. Mariupol was also the headquarters of the Azov Battalion, the neo-Nazi group that had been integrated into the Ukrainian armed forces. The capture of the city serves the Russian claims of "de-Nazifying" Ukraine.

If Mr. Lavrov should be trusted, Russia is likely to shift its focus to the Ukraine-controlled parts of Donetsk once Severodonetsk is fully in its control. But there's no clarity on whether Russia would stop the war even if it captures the whole of Donbas. There are conflicting signals from Russian leadership. According to Mr. Putin, "demilitarisation and deNazification" are the goals, which are open for interpretation. As per Mr. Lavrov, "liberation of Donbas" is the priority.

In April, Maj Gen Rustam Minnekayev, a senior Russian commander, said Russia wanted the whole of Ukraine's east and south. If Mr. Minnekayev is right, Russia wants to take, besides Donbas, Kharkiv in the northeast and Mykolaiv, Zaporizhzhya and Odesa in the south, which would turn Ukraine into a landlocked country. Ukraine has already asked for more weapons, including artillery and long-range rockets, from the West, apparently to prepare for the coming battles. The U.S. is sending them the Multiple Launch Rocket Systems (MLRS) and the High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems (HIMARS) – both light, flexible, long-range rocket launchers. All these suggest that there is no immediate plan from any side to end the war.

Haven't the sanctions hit the Russian economy?

They have. Russia's economy is expected to contract this year. But the sanctions and their impact on the economy are unlikely to influence the Kremlin's strategic thinking for a number of reasons.

First, the war and the western response to it appear to have bolstered Mr. Putin's standing in Russia. According to the Levada Centre, an independent research firm, as of April, 82% Russians approve of his presidency. He doesn't face any immediate threat to his grip on power in Russia. Second, despite the sanctions, the Russian economy doesn't face any imminent collapse. The rouble, which U.S. President Joe Biden threatened to run into "rubble", is one of the best performing currencies this year. The sanctions also jacked up commodity prices, especially that of oil and gas, which is helping Russia, a major oil and gas exporter. Europe remains dependent on Russian gas – close to 40% of its gas requirements are met through imports from Russia. Its attempts to diversify its gas imports by buying LNG from countries such as Qatar and Libya have so far been not successful.

Also, the Russian blockade of Ukraine's sea ports is threatening to send food prices soaring which could impact global food supplies and food security. This has prompted several European countries to reach out to Mr. Putin, seeking a solution. Moreover, countries outside the Western alliances have not joined the sanctions, which means Russia is not as isolated internationally as the West claims it is. So Mr. Putin appears to be ready to fight a war of attrition, which could hurt the global economy further.

Is there a peace process?

Both Russia and Ukraine have held multiple rounds of talks, in Minsk as well as in Istanbul, since the war began, but there has been no breakthrough. In the last round of the Istanbul talks, Ukraine had apparently made a peace proposal.

According to media reports, Ukraine proposed a 15-year consultation period for Crimea (during this period Kyiv won't contest Russia's control of the peninsula) and direct talks between Presidents Volodymyr Zelensky and Mr. Putin on the status of Donbas. As a "goodwill gesture", the Russians quickly announced that they were withdrawing troops from the outskirts of Kyiv. But soon after the Istanbul talks were concluded, video footage surfaced showing bodies in Bucha, the northern city that the Russians vacated. U.S. President Joe Boden accused Russia of committing "genocide" in Ukraine. The peace process collapsed.

Now, Mr. Zelensky has once again urged direct talks with Mr. Putin, but Russia, which stated in April that the talks were "at a dead end", says "Ukraine is not serious about ending the conflict". In between, the war continues and Ukraine keeps losing territories.

State of play in Ukraine

Sources: Institute for the Study of War, UK Ministry of Defence, Reuters © GRAPHIC NEWS

EXPLAINER

India's changing goal posts over coal

Is India's ambition to phase out coal-based power generation and switch to a natural gas-based energy production, viable?

THE GIST

- Coal consumption needs to come down as the power sector in India accounts for 49% of total carbon dioxide emissions, compared with the global average of 41%.
- As of February 2022, the installed capacity for coal-based power generation across the country was 2.04 lakh MW. This accounts for about 51.5% of power from all sources. Natural gas has been dubbed as the transition fuel.
- As per a letter by the power Ministry, Coal India, the country's largest supplier of the dry fuel is set to import coal for the first time since 2015. The aim of the exercise is to avoid a repeat of the power outage crisis that India faced in April.

K. BHARAT KUMAR

The story so far: In April, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said India's transition away from coal as a fuel for power would be hampered by the Russia-Ukraine war. "One calculation which I think we had in our mind was that the transition [away from coal] ... will be enabled by natural gas," she said, adding that "lowering dependence on coal, and the speed with which we want to get out of it, will now be challenged."

Why is the 'move away from coal' so important?

The threat of global warming looms over the planet, promising to bring about unprecedented natural calamities.

An effective way to keep the danger at bay is to cut the use of fossil fuels – coal, natural gas and oil. About 80% of the world's energy requirements are met by these three fuels. They have likely brought on the climate crisis we now face, as they trigger the emission of carbon dioxide. However, the worst culprit of them all is coal, which emits nearly twice as much carbon dioxide as natural gas and about 60% more than oil, on a kilogram-to-kilogram comparison.

• REUTERS

Combusting coal also leaves behind partially-burnt carbon particles that feed pollution and trigger respiratory disorders. The consequence of these chemical reactions gains great significance because, the power sector in India accounts for 49% of total carbon dioxide emissions, compared with the global average of 41%.

What is the extent of India's dependence on coal?

As of February 2022, the installed capacity for coal-based power generation across the country was 2.04 lakh megawatt (MW). This accounts for about 51.5% of power from all sources. This compares with about 25,000 MW of capacity based on natural gas as fuel, or a mere 6.3% of all installed capacity. Renewable power accounted for 1.06 lakh MW or 27%.

Coal-based power stations are retired periodically which happens all the time. But is not fast enough nor are new additions being halted. And with good reason - coal is still inexpensive compared with other sources of energy.

For FY20, for example, India added 6,765 MW power capacity based on coal as fuel. But only 2,335 MW was retired. According to the IEA's Coal Report 2021, India's coal consumption will increase at an average annual rate of 3.9% to 1.18 billon tonnes in 2024.

So, it is not easy to shift away from coal overnight. As the World Coal Association CEO Melissa Manook put it while on her India visit recently, "Coal will still be a significant contributor in the energy sector even in 2040!"

How has war made India's move away from coal difficult?

Natural gas has been dubbed as the transition fuel in India's plans to move away from coal. The international cost of natural gas has zoomed in the recent past from a level that was considered already too high to be financially viable. On May 17, 2022, the price per MMBTU of gas was ₹1,425, compared with ₹500 in April, 2021.

Even back in November last, well before the war made things difficult, the government put in place a committee to ensure that natural gas prices remained stable. Of the 25,000 MW of gas-based power plants, about 14,000 MW remains stranded, or idle, because they are financially unviable.

While renewable energy sources are cheaper than coal, their ability to generate power consistently is subject to the whims of nature – the wind and the Sun. Coal can give you power on demand. Storage technologies are still not mature enough to help renewable energy sources become reliable generators of power.

Is there a coal availability crisis that is exacerbating our problems?

It appears that the pent-up demand returning in the economy which was in a pandemic-induced stupor for a while has caught policymakers off guard. From having asked States only recently to stop importing coal, the power Ministry urged States earlier this month to step up coal imports as the private sector would take till about 2025 to produce significant amounts of coal.

As per a letter by the Ministry, Coal India, the country's largest supplier of the dry fuel is set to import coal for the first time since 2015. The aim of the exercise is to avoid a repeat of the power outage crisis that India faced in April – the worst in more than six years. Following the issue of the letter dated May 28 to all state utilities, officials at the States and the Centre, including to the Coal Secretary, the central government has asked States to place import tenders on hold with a view to cut procurement costs using government-to-government channels.

An internal power Ministry presentation is said to point to a 42.5 million tonne (MT) coal shortage in the quarter ending September on the back of high demand for power supply. The shortage is 15% higher than earlier anticipated. Domestic supply of coal is expected to be 154.7 MT, compared with the projected requirement of 197.3 MT. The previously anticipated shortage was 37 MT. The projections for requirements for the year ending March are 3.3% higher than earlier anticipated at 784.6 MT. Without imports, utilities are likely to run out of coal supplies by July.

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NHAI to build service roads near IAF air base in Yelahanka

Defence authorities will be approached seeking land for the project

Service roads will help in the smooth flow of the traffic on the highway that leads to Kempegowda International Airport. • FILE PHOTO

SUCHITH KIDIYOOR
BENGALURU

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) will build service roads near the Yelahanka Airforce Base, which will help in the smooth flow of the traffic on the highway that leads to the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA). The highway does not have service roads from the end of BSF headquarters to Hunasamaranahalli Lake.

Mid-May, the airport road witnessed inundation owing to incessant rain as a portion of the low-lying area of the highway near the air base was flooded with rainwater, resulting in a traffic pile-up for miles. Unable to reach the airport on time, many had missed flights.

Flyers had slammed the NHAI for failing to clear the waterlogging on one of the prominent highways for which a hefty toll fee is being collected from road users. Chief General Manager of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) M.K. Wathore told *The Hindu* that a service road on the stretch for a distance of 2 km will be built in the coming days and Defence authorities will be approached seeking the required land for the construction of the service road. When asked about the reason for waterlogging in the area, the official said, "Waterlogging happened due to heavy rainfall. The drainage system is clogged because of plastic and other waste. We have given instructions to the officials to attend to these issues and help to ensure the smooth flow of the traffic".

On other hand, Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) is constructing an elevated metro line along the highway from Hebbal to the airport. Near the airbase, BMRCL is building the metro line using a cut-and-cover method. The BMRCL will remove several structures coming in the way of the alignment.

An official of BMRCL said, "We have to remove five buildings and several utility structures coming in the way of our alignment and also to facilitate construction of a service road on the right side of the highway. BMRCL will build the structures, the overhead tank, the subway, and others as compensatory measures as per the requirement of IAF. The NHAI will build the service road on both sides".

DCP traffic (North) Savitha S. added, "We had given strict instructions to officials concerned on clearing the water drainage system. Water logging caused hardship to the public as traffic piled up for hours".

No progress in adding more lanes near Hebbal

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The NHAI had planned to add more lanes from the Hebbal flyover towards the skywalk located near Esteem Mall. Many years ago, trees that were located on Defence land were axed to build more lanes. But the project was never completed.

The Hebbal flyover is known for traffic snarls as thousands of vehicles come in various directions. Building additional lanes near the skywalk would help in smooth flow of the traffic moving towards Sahakarnagar.

The bus station at Hebbal is used by hundreds of passengers using inter-State services every day and city buses operated by the BMTC. In the evening hours, buses and other vehicles are haphazardly parked, blocking the movement of traffic.

On other hand, near the Sadahalli toll gate, the NHAI had planned to build an underpass and remove the existing traffic signal. Flaws in the design forced the authority to abandon the project mid-way. Removal of the signal at the point would make the highway a signal-free corridor till KIA.

12-year-old girl injured in freak accident at temporary fair

Despite a case being registered, fair is still running: Parents

BENGALURU BUREAU
BENGALURU

A 12-year-old girl sustained multiple fractures when a joyride snapped from the track and fell on her at a temporary amusement fair in Anand Nagar on Friday night. This girl is out of danger but is under treatment.

The girl's parents are upset that despite a case being registered against the joyride owners and operators, the 'Fish Theme Fair' is still running, posing a safety risk to other children.

Ramapriya, a resident of Sarjapur Road, said that she and her husband took their child, Anusha C.K., to the temporary amusement fair on Friday evening.

"There was a toy car ride, in which she sat. Two rounds were fine, but during the third round, suddenly the car snapped from the track and fell down. As my daughter fell down, the car fell on her. She was rescued just in the nick of time. Otherwise the other car would have run over her neck. I shudder to think what would have happened," she said.

The girl was treated at a private hospital and discharged on Sunday. Ms. Ramapriya told *The Hindu* that her daughter had suffered multiple fractures, including to the clavicle bone (collar bone) and the elbows, and the doctors have said it may take nearly three months for her to recover.

The joyride at a temporary amusement fair where the girl was injured.

FIR registered

The father, Chandrakanth, lodged a complaint with the HAL police, who have registered an FIR against the owners and operators of the particular joyride in the amusement fair under Section 287 (negligence endangering human life) and 337 (rash and negligent act) of the Indian Penal Code.

However, the parents are not happy. "The police have only registered a case against the particular joyride and the amusement fair is going on without any further safety measures. We went to the fair assuming all safety precautions were taken as they need the BBMP's and the police's permission to run the fair. But after the accident, we saw that most of the machinery had rusted and was rickety. More accidents are waiting to happen at these fairs if safety measures are not taken. I do not want any other child to undergo something similar that my child went through," Ms. Ramapriya said.

The Police Commissionarate is the licencing authority for the fair. The fair was given a licence to operate from April 8 to May 25, sources said. The accident occurred on May 27, beyond the licenced period.

Ms. Ramapriya said that the fair was still not shut down and ongoing, clearly in violation of the licence. However, when contacted, a senior officer from the HAL police station said they have written to the BBMP to shut down the fair.

₹19,000 stolen from senior citizen's account

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The South Division cyber crime police are on the lookout for a person who, posing as a policeman, stole ₹19,000 from the account of a 66-year-old man on the pretext of verifying his mobile phone which was lost.

The victim, Ravishankar P., a resident of Pushpagiri Layout, lost his mobile phone at the railway station on May 10.

Modus operandi

On Thursday, Mr. Ravishankar received a call from the stolen phone and the caller identified himself as a police officer who found the phone. The caller took the password and other confidential details on the pretext of confirming that the phone belonged to him and later disconnected saying that he would get back. The fraud came to light when the complainant received the details of a transaction, which said that ₹19,000 had been debited from his account.

Based on the complaint, the police are now trying to track down the accused using the transaction details.

Police detain 32 foreign nationals for overstaying

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

As many as 32 foreign nationals, including 19 males and 13 females, were detained by the North-East Division police in a special drive launched on Monday.

Anoop A. Shetty, DCP, North-East Division, said that the drive is to check foreigners overstaying without valid documents. Most of the detained are from African countries whose Identities and addresses could not be verified.

They are being questioned and legal action will be taken against them, Mr. Shetty said.

MEMU train from Mysuru breaks down at Kengeri

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

A MEMU train coming from Mysuru broke down near Kengeri resulting in inconvenience to commuters.

The incident occurred around 8.30 a.m on Monday. Divisional Railway Manager Shyam Singh said it was owing to a technical snag.

"Around 10 a.m. we rectified the snags and the train reached its final destination, KSR Bengaluru. Some of the commuters deboarded the train at Kengeri and used other modes of transport. The train has been sent to the depot and we are further examining the train".

Teacher assaulted after objecting to child working at petrol station

Manager of the outlet files a counter-complaint

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Staffers of the Rachana petrol station on Mysuru Road have been booked for allegedly assaulting a 48-year-old schoolteacher who objected to a minor boy working as an attendant.

P.V. Chikka Thimmaiah, a resident of Bapujinagar and also a schoolteacher, was returning home from work and stopped at the petrol station.

He noticed a minor boy working as an attendant and asked him about his age.

Child labour

As the boy was reluctant to reply, he approached the manager and objected to the boy working as an attendant and informed him that it amounts to child labour.

The accused, later identified as Madesha, took him to the chamber to get the ID proof of the boy.

The other staff members soon gathered and started hurling abuses and intimidating him.

When Mr. Thimmaiah tried to get away, the accused snatched the key of his scooter and began to punch and kick him.

Shelter in building

He managed to escape and ran out from the station and took shelter at the basement of a residential apartment nearby, before calling the control room to report the incident, the police said.

A Hoysala patrolling vehicle reached the petrol pump and with the help of the police, Mr. Thimmaiah took his scooter and went to the station to file a complaint.

He requested the police to provide security to him and his family since the accused have threatened him with dire consequences .

The police have registered a case of assault and criminal intimidation and are investigating.

Meanwhile, the manager of the petrol station also filed a counter-complaint stating that Mr. Thimmaiah, on the pretext of the child labour issue, created a ruckus and demanded money.

He also alleged that due to the ruckus he had created, the petrol station has incurred business loss to the tune of ₹1 lakh.

Petrol outlets to function as usual today

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Akhila Karnataka Federation of Petroleum Traders (AKFPT) has said that all the petrol bunks in the State will be functional on Tuesday, though members of the federation will stage a protest near the depots of oil marketing companies in Devanagundi.

The federation has demanded reimbursement for losses they incurred after overnight Excise duty reductions announced by the Union government recently and an increase in the commission rate. Traders have decided not to purchase fuel from oil marketing companies on Tuesday.

President of the AKFPT, K.M. Basave Gowda, said, "All the petrol bunks in the State will run their business as usual on Tuesday. Motorists need not worry about availability of fuel. All the bunks have required storage". He added that around 150 traders will stage protests demanding compensation for their losses. "Due to the overnight reduction in Excise duty, each petrol bunk owner suffered a loss of ₹5 lakh to ₹10 lakh. We faced this situation last year as well. We want the authorities to compensate us".

Power supply to be affected in city today

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

In view of emergency work at 66/11 kV station, there will be no power supply on Tuesday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. According to a press release, the areas that will be affected are: Anekal Town, Samanduru, Surya City Phase 1 and 2, Kumbaranahally, Bannerghatta, Bannerghatta National Park, Indlavadi, and surrounding areas.

Power supply will also be affected on Tuesday between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. in the areas serviced from Bannerghatta 66/11 KV MUSS.

The areas affected are Gollahalli, Mylasandra, Bettadasanapura, Hommadevanahalli, Basavanapura, Kalena Agrahara, Doddakammanahalli, Viewers' Colony, Arakere, Mico Layout, Gottigere, Bannerghatta Road, and surrounding areas.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that, my client, Mrs. G.V.Uma W/o. Siddaraju, aged about 48 years, residing at Yarandahalli Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore has LOST THE ORIGINAL SALE DEED DATED 09.02.1998, WHICH IS REGISTERED AS DOCUMENT NO.4831 / 1997-98 OF BOOK-I, IN THE OFFICE OF THE PHOTO-REGISTRAR, ANEKAL, BANGALORE, REGISTERED ON 13.06.1998 LOST WHILE TRAVELING FROM CHANDAPURA TO YARANDAHALLI ON 14.05.2022. A COMPLAINT IS LODGED IN SURYANAGAR POLICE STATION DATED 18.05.2022 VIDE LOST REPORT GSC NO. PO2144220680267, Finders may return the same to the near Police Station or contact at the below address.

BHASKAR.M,
ADVOCATES & LEGAL CONSULTANTS,
Office: No.739, 3rd Floor, 60th Cross, Near Bhashyam Circle, 5th Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore -560 010. Land line: 080-48520373

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client intends to purchase the schedule property described hereinbelow from its owners Smt. P Zeenathunnisa AND Sri. Tanveer Ahmed Khureshi and legal heirs of Sardar Ahmed Khureshi.

The owners have got title over the schedule property from its previous owners - Smt. Mujbunnisa and Sri. Amjad Khan, vide registered Sale Deed dated 24-03-2015 bearing document no.HSK-1-10287/2014-15, CD No. HSKD498, at Hoskote sub registrar office.

My client intends to avail loan from any financial institution by mortgaging the schedule property after purchase.

If any person/s or financial institutions having any objections claims, right, title interest in respect of the schedule property may file their objections with the undersigned in the above address alongwith documentary proof within **TEN DAYS** from the date of publication of this notice. Thereafter, he will proceed to complete the transaction without being liable for any claims put forth thereafter.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing e-khatha Property ID No. 150300402700300616, Panchayat Khatha No.276/298, situated at Medimallasandra Village, Anugondanahalli Hobli, Hosakote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District,

measuring east to west : 18.8976 mtrs AND north to south : 28.3464 mtrs, together with AC Sheet house measuring 148.64 sq mtrs and vacant site measuring 535.68 sq mtrs and bounded on :

East by : House of Fairoz Khan
West by : Road
North by : House of Khader Khan
South by : Main Road

Place: Bangalore. Dated: 31.05.2022

Renuka R Desai / Rohit Desai, Advocates
Manu Law Chambers,
No. 948/1, 2nd Main Road, Rajajinagar 4th Block Entrance, Bangalore - 560 010.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I am the absolute owner of the immovable property morefully described in the Schedule hereunder and hereinafter referred to as the 'Schedule Property'.

I represent that the Schedule Property was originally allotted to my father K.M.Shoury by Bangalore Development Authority ('BDA') as per Allotment Letter dated 01/03/1985 and thereafter possession was handed over by BDA to my father as per Possession Certificate dated 04/09/1992 and thereafter the 'BDA' executed a Sale Deed dated 12/09/2001 registered as Document No.12134 of 2001-02 of Book 1, Volume 401, pages 20 to 25 in the office of the Sub Registrar Shivajinagar, Bangalore, in his favour. I further represent that upon the demise of my father on 16/09/2020 the Schedule Property was devolved upon his three sons namely (i) Capt. Pradeep Shoury Arya, (ii) Mr. Pramod Shoury Arya and (iii) Mr. Dum Pradutt Shoury. As per Release Deed dated 08/03/2021 registered as Document No. No. SHV-1-06536/2020-21, Stored in CD No. SHVD 833, in the Office of the Sub Registrar, Shivajinagar, Bangalore, Capt. Pradeep Shoury Arya and Mr. Pramod Shoury Arya released their undivided share, right, title and interest in the Schedule Property in favour of me.

I represent that the aforesaid Allotment Letter and Sale Deed were lost at my residence during renovation and that neither I nor my brothers have created any lien/mortgage on the said documents. It is further represented that save and except for me nobody has any right or claim under the said sale deed and no third party will have any right, title or interest on the same and therefore cannot act on the said sale deed. I have lodged Police Complaint on 21/05/2022 vide Lost Report No. 0227250/2022 with the Karnataka Police Station, Bengaluru City.

If any body has any charge, lien, interest, title on the Schedule Property, they should come forth with copies of documents in support of such claim and produce the same to us within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. In the event, no such claim is received, I shall proceed with the transaction of the Schedule Property as if no such claims exist or that they have been waived or abandoned.

Further, if the aforesaid sale deed is in the lawful possession of anybody the same shall be returned to the undersigned and if any third party acts on the said sale deed the same shall be void abinitio and shall not be binding on me. Further I shall presume that the aforesaid Allotment Letter and sale deed are permanently lost.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property being Site bearing No. 5M 635 totally measuring 482.69 Square meters situated at OMBR Layout, Banaswadi, Bangalore and bounded as follows:-

On the East : 5th Main Road;
On the West : Site No.4CM 634, 4CM 636 & 4CM 638;
On the North : 6th 'B' Cross Road;
On the South : Site No.5M 633

Sd/- **Dum Pradutt Shoury Arya,**
No. 185, Farah Court, 5th Main Road, Defence Colony, HAL 2nd Stage, Bangalore North, Bengaluru.
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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I **SANTHOSH** Rao Ghatke residing at Gavadagere (Vill & Po), Hunsur (Teh), Mysore (Dist), Pin: 571610 have changed my daughter name from Sirisha Ghatke to Siri Ghatke vide affidavit dated 27 may 2022 before notary Gangaraju B N, Bangalore.

I, **Ahilya** S Dhawalgi, W/o IC 37798K, Colonel Sanganagouda A Dhawalgi (Retd), INT Corps, would like to correct my name from Ahilya Dhawalgi to Ahilya S Dhawalgi in all defence records of my husband, vide affidavit dt: 30.05.2022 sworn before Notary Udaykumar K, B'lore.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, **BASHEER** S/o Mamuni, R/a No.4-1, 6th Main Road, Palace Guttahalli, Malleshwaram, Bangalore-560003, hereby state that both the names Bashir and Basheer belongs to one and the same person i.e., me only, vide affidavit dt: 28.05.2022 sworn before Notary G.Dayananda, B'lore.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

I, M.PERUMAL, C/o M.Radhakrishna, R/a No.115, 1st floor, 6th Cross, R.K Layout, 1st Phase, Padmanabhanagara, Bengaluru. Lost of my Original documents complete set of file No. RBI/ IN/ KWC - 974/ WB-SL-12-18 on 22/04/2022 and same is informed and report raised. Police unit: Bengaluru city. Lost report No. 0231998/2022 dated 27/05/2022.

If anybody finds this document, please contact 97390 10338 or report to the nearest police station.

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No. 2/25/2022-BM-II/ICP
Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs
Department of Border Management
(BM-II Division)

APPOINTMENT TO THE POST OF SECRETARY (JS LEVEL) IN LAND PORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA (LPAI)

Applications from eligible officers of Central Government are invited by the Department of Border Management, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India to fill up the vacant post of Secretary (JS Level) in the Land Ports Authority of India (LPAI).

2. The details and other terms & conditions are available on the website of the Ministry of Home Affairs at https://www.mha.gov.in and LPAI at https://lpai.gov.in/.
3. **Last date for receiving applications is 18th July, 2022.** (Application received after this date will not be considered).
4. Address for sending applications:

Mr. Manoj Kumar Jha, Deputy Secretary (BM-II)
Room No. 12, 2nd Floor, Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium,
Department of Border Management, Ministry of Home Affairs,
India Gate Circle, New Delhi-110001.
E-mail: mk.jha65@nic.in

ABSTRACT

After-effects of anti-corruption laws

How strict anti-bribery laws like the FCPA led to the growth of illegal black markets

THE GIST

- Bribe-switching", a paper by American researchers Jamie Bologna Pavlik and Desiree Desierto looks into the unintended consequences of the strict implementation of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA).
- The reason why there was no real decrease in the level of corruption among foreign officials after the enactment of the FCPA was because public officials did not only depend on formal markets to earn bribes but also on illegal markets.
- The authors note that while there was no increase in a country's GDP per capita after the FCPA moved against attempts to bribe their public officials, there was a significant increase in the size of their black economies.

PRASHANTH PERUMAL

Desierto, Desiree and Bologna Pavlik, Jamie, Bribe-Switching (May 10, 2021). Free Market Institute Research Paper No. 3843425, Available at SSRN: https://ssrn.com/abstract=3843425 or http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3843425

Strict anti-corruption laws are seen as the panacea to many of society's problems. But like many other laws that are created with good intentions, there can be unintended consequences to anti-corruption laws as well. These consequences are initially unforeseen by the supporters of these laws.

"Bribe-switching"

"Bribe-switching" by American researchers Jamie Bologna Pavlik and Desiree Desierto looks into the unintended consequences of the strict implementation of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA). It should be noted that the FCPA was enacted to prohibit firms and people in the United States from bribing public officials in foreign countries. Most famously, the FCPA was used to prosecute Goldman Sachs for its involvement in Malaysia's 1MDB scam. So, what have been the benefits of the FCPA?

Many assume that strict anti-corruption laws like the FCPA when enforced properly by government officials would lead to a fall in corruption and an improvement in the economy. The FCPA, which imposes heavy fines and other penalties on American firms engaging in corrupt practices, is in fact considered to be a law that is implemented well. The researchers, however, found that when the U.S. government went after certain U.S. firms that operated in other countries on charges of bribery, other interesting results followed. These results failed to satisfy the initial expectations of the legislators who framed the FCPA.

Growth of illegal markets

First of all, there was no real decrease in the level of corruption among foreign officials after the enactment of the FCPA. The researchers propose what they call the "bribe-switching hypothesis" to explain the failure of corruption to fall in foreign countries despite the enforcement of FCPA regulations.

In countries where American firms could no longer offer bribes due to FCPA regulations, the size of the black economy increased by as much as 0.25 % points

They argue that public officials do not depend on only formal markets to earn bribes but may also depend on other illegal markets to earn bribes. Whether public officials receive bribes through legal markets or through illegal markets depends among other things on the relative cost of receiving bribes through each route. When the cost of extracting bribes in the legal market increases due to laws like the FCPA, this can cause public officials to resort to obtaining bribes from the illegal market instead. If so be the case, public officials may compensate for the loss of bribe revenues from legal markets with bribe revenues from the black or illegal economy. For example, after the enactment of the FCPA, certain formal investment projects that would have earlier received approvals from officials after the payment of a bribe may no longer receive official approval. Instead, officials may focus their efforts on approving projects in the illegal market that bring them bribe revenue at a lower risk of getting caught red-handed.

In countries where American firms could no longer offer bribes due to FCPA regulations, the size of the black economy increased by as much as 0.25 percentage points, the researchers found in their study. Other proxy markers of illegal activity such as homicide rates, tree loss, and trade misinvoicing also showed that the FCPA was leading to an increase in illegal activity in the black economies of these countries. This, the authors argue, happens because public officials resort to obtaining their bribe revenue from the illegal rather than the legal market. This will make them more likely to allow illegal activities to flourish in order to maximise their bribe revenues. So, for example, a powerful bureaucrat might allow the illegal sale of liquor in the black market to flourish in exchange for bribes when he can no longer easily obtain bribes for investment projects from established U.S. liquor firms due to the FCPA.

Illegal economies, an alternative?

More importantly, the authors note that while there was no increase in a country's GDP per capita after the FCPA moved against attempts to bribe their public officials, there was a significant increase in the size of their black economies. The authors argue that the growth of the black economy is a significant negative development for these countries. Others, however, may argue that the black economy in these countries could be serving as a useful alternative to the highly restricted legal economy. In this view, bribes may actually be greasing the wheels of commerce in many economies where existing laws that govern the formal economy are not conducive to legitimate business activities.

THE DAILY QUIZ

World No Tobacco Day is observed every year on May 31 to inform the public about the dangers of using tobacco. Here is a quiz on tobacco and its laws.

1 This is the first WHO treaty adopted under article 19 of the WHO constitution. The treaty came into force on February 27, 2005. Name the treaty.

2 MPOWER is a policy package intended to assist in the country-level implementation of effective interventions to reduce the demand for tobacco, as ratified by the WHO. Among the six evidence-based components (M, P, O, W, E, R), what does R stand for?

3 TNCO ceilings are the average upper limits on the contents of a cigarette, as measured on a smoking machine and according to a given set of ISO standards. Expand TNCO.

4 In 2010, a multinational tobacco company filed a complaint against Uruguay stating that the country's anti-smoking legislation devalued its cigarette trademarks and investments in the country. Which is the company?

5 Plain tobacco packaging is the packaging of tobacco products including only the brand name in a mandated size, font and place on the pack, in addition to the health warnings and other legally mandated information. Which is the first country in the world to introduce this packaging?

6 The six largest tobacco companies are China National Tobacco Company, British American Tobacco, Philip Morris International, Imperial Brands, Altria Group, and Japan Tobacco International. What are they collectively referred as?

7 Which country is planning to ban the sale of tobacco to its next generation to eventually phase out smoking?

◄ What is this type of cigarette called? What is the term that is generally associated with smoking these kinds of cigarettes? • REUTERS

Please send in your answers to the **dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in**

Questions (abridged) and Answers to the previous day's dailyquiz: 1. This well known author also goes by the pseudonym 'Robert Galbraith'. **Ans: J. K. Rowling**
2. This writer's debut novel won the Booker Prize in 1997. **Ans: Arundhati Roy**
3. This author's 1813 novel begins with the sentence "It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife". **Ans: Jane Austen**
4. This Pulitzer Prize-winning author's best-known work is set in the fictional Southern county of Maycomb. **Ans: Harper Lee**
5. This Tamil feminist and novelist rose to fame with her autobiographical novel *Karukku* (1992). **Ans: Bama**
6. This poet's autobiography is titled *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*. **Ans: Maya Angelou**
Visual: The creator of the fictional monster. **Ans: Mary Shelley**

Early Birds: Dhruv Singhal| Tulika Sharma| Shinjinee Mishra| Shrutika Methi| Anamika Priyadarshani

Compiled by: Sindhu Nagaraj

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

"Good morning, sir."

"Good morning."

"Sir, when did you reach back from Delhi?"

"I returned from Delhi two days ago. You return or get back from a place. Don't say 'reach back'. Of course, you can reach a place by car or cart or train or plane. But you return or get back and not reach back. I hope this is clear."

"Yes, sir. What is the difference between 'figure on' and 'figure out' sir?"

" 'Figure on' means 'to count on' 'to expect'.

I figured on his attending the meeting today.

I figured on his leaving yesterday.

I figured on taking the examination last month.'

'Figure out' means 'to estimate, understand'.

I am not able to figure out why he is so silent these days.

I can't figure out how he escaped.

I can't figure out his strange behaviour last night."

"How do you pronounce 'make', sir?"

"The *a* in make is pronounced in the same way as the *a* in paid, maid, laid, tail, fail, hail and so on."

"What is the meaning of 'The amendment has been tabled.' sir?"

" 'To table' means 'to submit for consideration by a committee'. Parliament and so on.

I have tabled a resolution and I hope it will be taken up tomorrow.

However, in American English 'to table' means 'to postpone indefinitely the discussion or consideration of a motion or bill.' What the Americans table today may be tabled by the British subsequently. That's why international meetings are so interesting."

"What is 'Hobson's choice, sir?"

"Hobson's choice is absence of choice. You have to take what is offered. You are offered no alternative. Tobias Hobson (1544-1631) had a stable at Cambridge in England and hired out horses. If anyone asked for a horse, he would ask him to take the horse nearest the stable door. He had a number of horses, but he wouldn't allow his customers to choose their horse. Either they chose the horse nearest the stable door or none at all. So when you are forced to choose something, you say it is Hobson's choice. In Cambridge, a street is named after this choice Englishman.

Did you have tea or coffee at the party?' I am afraid I was left to Hobson's choice. I had coffee.'

I hope it is clear. It's getting too late for you. Goodbye."

"Thank you sir, Goodbye."

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

UPSC results: 26 aspirants from State selected for Civil Services

NLSIU graduate Avinash V. secures 31st rank in his first attempt and is Karnataka topper

KARNATAKA BUREAU
BENGALURU

The results of the Civil Services examination 2021, which were announced by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) on Monday, brought cheer to 26 persons from Karnataka, who were selected for the Civil Services.

Twenty-four-year-old law graduate from the National Law School of India University (NLSIU)-Bengaluru, Avinash V., secured the 31st rank in his first attempt and emerged as the Karnataka topper.

Avinash V. and (right) Vinay Kumar Gadge

Mr. Avinash is from Davangere and his parents are in the hotel business. He got his BA LLB degree from NLSIU in 2020-21.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Mr. Avinash said, "I am very happy that I achieved this rank in the first attempt. Family support, consistent study, and good guidance by my academy are the key points of my success".

"After I completed my degree, I immediately joined Insight Academy for coaching. I consistently read regularly for 6 to 7 hours daily. *The Hindu* helped me lot to build myself and I wanted to go for Indian Foreign Service (IFS)," he said.

An engineering graduate, Nikhil Basavaraj Patil, 26, from Lakkundi, Vijayapura, got the 139th rank. Having completed his primary and secondary education in Belagavi, Mr. Patil got his degree at PES University, Bengaluru, in 2017.

"Then I went to New Delhi for CSE training. In my first two attempts, I failed to crack the preliminary exam also. But, in the third attempt, I successfully cracked the Mains and faced the interview, but failed. In the fourth attempt, I became successful," he told *The Hindu*, recounting his journey.

A Karnataka Administrative Service (KAS) officer, working as an Assistant Director at the Cooperative Audit Department, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru, Vinay Kumar Gadge, managed to secure the 151st rank. Dr. Gadge, a native of Bidar, got his MBBS degree from Mysore Medical college. He cracked the KAS exam in 2020 and in the fifth attempt, he became successful in CSE.

"Last year, in the fourth attempt I entered the interview round and failed. Again I tried this year and became successful. I took Anthropology as my optional subject in my Mains. *The Hindu* helped me a lot for preparing for the CSE. Every day, I used to go to the library and study for three hours in the morning before going to the office and four to five hours in the evening, after the office hours. Our department's higher officers were very co-operative and encouraged me a lot," said Dr. Gadge.

Among the other successful candidates from the State are N.J. Benaka Prasad, who got the 92nd rank, Apoorva Basur [191st rank], Nithya R. [207th rank], M.P. Rajesh Ponnappa [222nd rank], and Sahithya M. Aladakatti with the 250th rank.

Two candidates from Uttara Kannada district also cleared the exam: Manoj Ramanath Hegde with the 213rd rank and Deepak Ramachandra Shet with the 311th rank.

FROM PAGE ONE

BBMP ward quota: Cabinet decides on Ordinance route

This follows the Supreme Court order that has asked the State government to hold the elections after the exercise for delimitation of wards is completed in eight weeks.

"The Justice Bhakthavatsalam committee will also submit its report on reservation to Backward Classes in eight weeks based on the political backwardness."

"There is no question of going back on elections," sources said.

Statue unveiled

STAFFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

A statue of B.R. Ambedkar was unveiled at Raj Bhavan by Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot on Monday in the presence of Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai.

It was unveiled as a tribute to Dr. Ambedkar, according to a release.

V-C team from U.K. to visit State on June 9, 10

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

A team of over 20 Vice-Chancellors from the United Kingdom will be visiting Karnataka on June 9 and 10 for collaborative opportunities in higher education, C.N. Ashwath Narayan, Minister for Higher Education, said on Monday.

Addressing a press conference regarding a recent visit to London by a delegation, led by him, to participate in the Education World Forum, he said that both Karnataka and the U.K. are keen to take up a multi-year project involving higher educational institutions.

Stating that a team of officials of higher educational institutions will also visit India in September, he added, "There are efforts to build multi-stranded quality collaborations and sustain them, addressing the aspirations articulated in the National Education Policy 2020. The State government is committed to making this happen and we will encourage HEIs of our State to make the best use of these opportunities."

He expressed confidence that consultations held with prestigious universities would benefit the students in the State.

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NOTICE OF CANDIDATURE OF DIRECTOR AT THE 100th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to the provisions of Section 160 of Companies Act, 2013, the bank has received notice signifying candidature of the following person for appointment as Independent Director of the Bank, subsequent to the notice dated May 06, 2022, convening the 98th, 99th and 100th Annual General Meetings, to be taken up at the 100th Annual General Meeting of the Bank to be held on Thursday, the 9th June, 2022 at 12.30 p.m. IST or at the conclusion of the 99th Annual General Meeting through Video Conferencing ("VC") / Other Audio Visual Means ("OAVM") facility.

1 (one) candidate is contesting for 1 (one) vacancy. The candidate is not prima facie disqualified to be the Director of the Bank in terms of the RBI directives regarding 'fit and proper' criteria for appointment of Director. He has confirmed his eligibility and has given his consent for appointment as an Independent Director. The members with a view to fill up 1 (one) vacancy are required to elect the candidate on the following resolution to be proposed at the AGM:

1. To consider and if thought fit, to pass with or without modification(s), the following resolution as a **Special Resolution**:

"RESOLVED THAT pursuant to the provisions of Sections 149, 152, Schedule IV and other applicable provisions, if any, of the Companies Act, 2013 read with the relevant Rules made there under (the "Act"), Section 10A(2A) and other relevant provisions of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, and the rules, guidelines and circulars issued by the Reserve Bank of India (the "RBI"), in this regard, from time to time and any other applicable laws (including any statutory amendment(s), modification(s), variation(s) or re-enactment(s) thereto, for the time being in force), the provisions of the Articles of Association of the Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Limited (the "Bank") and pursuant to the recommendation of the Nomination and Remuneration Committee of the Bank, Thiru. B.S Keshava Murthy (DIN: 06965816), whose first term as an Independent Director of the Bank expired on January 28, 2019 and who meets the criteria of independence as prescribed under the provisions of Section 149(6) of the Act and who is eligible to be appointed as an Independent Director of the Bank, and in respect of whom the Bank has received a notice in writing proposing his candidature for the office of Director in terms of Section 160 of the Act, be and is hereby appointed as an Independent Director of the Bank for his second term, with effect from June 9, 2022 upto February 28, 2024 (both days inclusive) on the existing terms and conditions of appointment as applicable to other Independent Directors of the Bank and who shall not be liable to retire by rotation, in terms of Section 149(13) of the Act."

For **Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Limited**
Sd/-
Thoothukudi — Prakash Chandra Panda
May 30, 2022 — Company Secretary

NOTE:
This notice should be read in conjunction with the notice and the explanatory statement of the 100th Annual General Meeting (along with the notices of the other two AGMs to be held together) dated May 06, 2022 sent to the members earlier.

Explanatory Statement pursuant to Section 102(1) of the Companies Act, 2013
The total Board strength is 11 Directors as per Articles of Association of the Bank. The present composition of the Board is 10 Directors (excluding two RBI nominees) out of which one of the Directors is the Managing Director & CEO, 5 are Independent Directors and 4 are Non-executive Directors of the Bank. One more Independent Director is required to be appointed for one vacancy as per the provisions of Section 149 of the Companies Act, 2013 to comply the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

Based on the credentials submitted by the candidate, the Nomination and Remuneration Committee (the "Committee") has assessed the due diligence of 'fit and proper' norms and recommended to the members for their approval.

The brief details of the proposed candidate are as follows:

Thiru. B.S.Keshava Murthy (aged 67 years) is an ex-director of the Bank. He does not hold any share in the bank. He is a retired bank executive having 38 years of banking experience and his qualifications are M.Sc, and CAIIB (Part 1). He has given a declaration to the effect that he meets the criteria of independence as provided in Section 149(6) of Companies Act, 2013. In the opinion of the Committee, Thiru B.S.Keshava Murthy can be considered both under the **'Independent'** category as well as the **'majority sector'** category. None of the directors, key managerial persons of the Bank or their relatives is concerned or interested in the proposed resolution. As per the provisions of Section 149(10) of the Companies Act, 2013 (the "Act"), an Independent Director can hold office for a term of up to five consecutive years on the Board of a company, and he shall be eligible for re-appointment for an additional term of up to five consecutive years, on passing of a Special Resolution by the company.

Further, no Independent Director shall hold office for more than two terms of five consecutive years each. However, in case of banking companies, which are governed under the provisions of Section 10A (2A) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, the overall tenure of a Non-Executive Director is restricted for a period of eight consecutive years.

Thiru. B.S Keshava Murthy was appointed as an Independent Director of the Bank on February 29, 2016 for a period of three (3) years and subsequently appointed as an Additional Director from February 04, 2019 to October 28, 2020 and as Director from October 28, 2020 to August 17, 2021.

The Committee at its meeting held on May 27, 2022 assessed the eligibility of Thiru. B.S.Keshava Murthy under 'fit and proper' norms for his second term, as an Independent Director of the Bank, from June 9, 2022 upto February 28, 2024 (both days inclusive), being the period up to which he can continue as a Director of the Bank, under the provisions of section 10A (2A) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 and recommended for the approval of the Members of the Bank, by means of a Special Resolution.

Brief instruction regarding remote e-voting and e-voting at the Annual General Meeting are available in the Bank's website https://www.tmb.in/annual-general-meetings.aspx.

For **Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Limited**
Sd/-
Thoothukudi — Prakash Chandra Panda
May 30, 2022 — Company Secretary

Protest at BU over FIR against two research students

Slogans raised against Vice-Chancellor K.R. Venugopal

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Condemning an FIR registered against two research students, hundreds of Bengaluru University students protested in front of the university office at Jnana Bharathi on Monday.

They took out a protest march across the university campus and then assembled in front of the head office. They raised slogans against Vice-Chancellor K.R. Venugopal and Finance Officer Vijayalakshmi.

Students staging a protest on the campus of Bangalore University on Monday.

They alleged that Ms. Vijayalakshmi gave a false complaint against the two research students.

"She should immediately withdraw the complaint and the V-C should take back the decision to transfer the university fund to the UVCE mechanical branch building construction," students said.

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NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT) (Through e-procurement)

BESCOM invites tenders for providing electrical infrastructure to regularized Un-authorized IP sets by extending 11KV lines, erection of 25KVA 4 star rated Distribution Transformers and extension of LT line 3 phase 4 wire on Total Turnkey basis on PERCENTAGE QUOTING BASIS.

Sl. No.	Enq. No's	Name of the Sub Division
1	BESCOM/CGM(P)/UNIP/BC-14/TKRC-3/22-23/TTK-18	Tumkur CSD-3
2	BESCOM/CGM(P)/UNIP/BC-14/TKRR-1/22-23/TTK-19	Tumkur RSD-1
3	BESCOM/CGM(P)/UNIP/BC-14/TKRR-2/22-23/TTK-20	Tumkur RSD-2
4	BESCOM/CGM(P)/UNIP/BC-14/GUB/22-23/TTK-21	Gubbi
5	BESCOM/CGM(P)/UNIP/BC-14/NIT/22-23/TTK-22	Nittur
6	BESCOM/CGM(P)/UNIP/BC-14/HDA/22-23/TTK-23	Huliyurudurga
7	BESCOM/CGM(P)/UNIP/BC-14/KUN/22-23/TTK-24	Kunigal
8	BESCOM/CGM(P)/UNIP/BC-14/TIP/22-23/TTK-25	Tiptur
9	BESCOM/CGM(P)/UNIP/BC-14/TUR/22-23/TTK-26	Turuvekere
10	BESCOM/CGM(P)/UNIP/BC-14/CHN/22-23/TTK-27	Chikkanayakanahalli
11	BESCOM/CGM(P)/UNIP/BC-14/KOR/22-23/TTK-28	Koratagere
12	BESCOM/CGM(P)/UNIP/BC-14/PAV/22-23/TTK-29	Pavagada
13	BESCOM/CGM(P)/UNIP/BC-14/SCSD/22-23/TTK-30	Sira CSD
14	BESCOM/CGM(P)/UNIP/BC-14/SRSD/22-23/TTK-31	Sira RSD
15	BESCOM/CGM(P)/UNIP/BC-14/DBS/22-23/TTK-32	Dabaspete
16	BESCOM/CGM(P)/UNIP/BC-14/DBPR/22-23/TTK-33	Doddaballapura Rural
17	BESCOM/CGM(P)/UNIP/BC-14/DEV/22-23/TTK-34	Devanahalli
18	BESCOM/CGM(P)/UNIP/BC-14/BEV/22-23/TTK-35	Bevoor
19	BESCOM/CGM(P)/UNIP/BC-14/BID/22-23/TTK-36	Bidadi
20	BESCOM/CGM(P)/UNIP/BC-14/CPTR/22-23/TTK-37	Channapatna RSD
21	BESCOM/CGM(P)/UNIP/BC-14/RMGR/22-23/TTK-38	Ramanagara RSD
22	BESCOM/CGM(P)/UNIP/BC-14/MAG/22-23/TTK-39	Magadi
23	BESCOM/CGM(P)/UNIP/BC-14/KUD/22-23/TTK-40	Kudur
24	BESCOM/CGM(P)/UNIP/BC-14/KANU/22-23/TTK-41	Kanakapura Urban
25	BESCOM/CGM(P)/UNIP/BC-14/MUL/22-23/TTK-42	Mulbagilu

Availability of Bid documents: 31.05.2022 @ 17:00 Hrs onwards. **Last date for bid submission:** 29.06.2022 @ 17:00 Hrs. **Opening of Technical Bids:** 01.07.2022 @ 11:00 Hrs. **Pre-Bid meeting:** 14.06.2022 @ 11:00 Hrs. **Venue:** BELAKU BHAVANA, Block-II, Corporate office, BESCOM, K.R. Circle, Bangalore-560 001. **Last date for submission of Queries:** 09.06.2022 before 17:00 Hrs.
The bid documents can be downloaded and necessary assistance can be obtained through the e-procurement portal from the website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.** E-procurement Help Desk: Phone No: **+91-8046010000 +91-8022631200,** E-mail: **support@ihelpdsk.com**. Aspiring bidders needs to be registered on e-procurement portal. Bidders can take the assistance from the e-procurement during working hours.

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Chief General Manager, Electy. Projects, BESCOM
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BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Bommanahalli Project Division,
Begur Road, Bommanahalli, Bengaluru – 560 068
No.: EE/BPD/TEND/01/2022-23 Date: 30.05.2022

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
Short Term Tender Notification (Two cover system)
(Through GOK E-Procurement Portal only)

The Executive Engineer, Bommanahalli Project Division invites Bids from reputed Consultants for Consultancy services for Preparing Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the development works in Bommanahalli Zone, Bommanahalli Project Division, given in the table below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Project Cost (Lakhs)	Amount put to Tender (Lakhs)	EMD (Rupees)
1	Detailed Project Report (DPR) for - Construction of indoor stadium at 6th Sector HSR Layout in Ward No. 174.	250.00	2.50	6,250.00
2	**Package No 1 -** 1) Providing and Maintenance of CC Camera and allied works in Bommanahalli Constituency. 2) Providing and Maintenance of Sign Board and allied works in Bommanahalli Constituency. 3) Providing and Maintenance of Street Light and allied works in Bommanahalli Constituency.	1000.00	10.00	25,000.00
3	**Package No 2** - Construction and Maintenance works for Singasandra school building in Ward No.191. 2) Construction of Samudaya Bhavana in Muneshwara Badavane of Hulimavu Ward No.193. 3) Construction of Anganavadi in Bommanahalli Constituency. 4) Construction and Maintenance, Furniture, and allied works for Roopena Agrahara Samudaya Bhavana Ward No.175. 5) Development of Dry Waste Collection Center, Providing Shredders and other SWM related works in Bommanahalli Constituency.	1000.00	10.00	25,000.00
4	**Package No 3 –** 1) Construction of Samudaya Bhavana in Agara of Ward No.174. 2) Construction of School in Parangipalya of Ward No.174. 3) Additional Development works to Ambedkar Bhavana in Parangipalya of Ward No.174. 4) Construction of Office building and other development works in Atal Bhihari Vajapeye play ground in Ward No.174. 5) Construction of School in Kodichikkanahalli of Ward No.175. 6) Construction of School in Hongasandra of Ward No.189. 7) Construction of School and Hospital in 8th Main of Hongasandra Ward No.189. 8) Construction of Samudaya Bhavana in Ellukunte of Ward No.190. 9) Additional Development works to PHC in Bandepalya of Ward No.190. 10) Development of Playground and Construction of School Building in Somasundrapalya Ward No.190.	1090.00	10.90	27,250.00
5	**Package No 4 –** 1) Development of Park in Vijayabank Layout Ward No.188. 2) Development of Parks in Singasandra Ward No.191. 3) Development of Vemana Circle in HSR Layout Ward No.174. 4) Junction Improvements in Bommanahalli Constituency. 5) Development of Playground in Kodichikkanahalli of Ward No.175. 6) Development of Play ground in Vijayabank Layout Ward No.188. 7) Play Ground Developmental works in AECS Layout B Block of Ward No.191. 8) Burial Ground Developmental works in Devarachikkanahalli of Ward No.175. 9) Burial Ground Developmental works in Bilekahalli of Ward No.188. 10) Burial Ground Developmental works in Channakeshavanagara, Hosaroad of Ward No.191. 11) Developmental works to Crematorium in Hosapalya Ward No.190. 12) Construction and Maintanance works for Puttenahalli school building in Ward No.187. 13) Construction of Public Health Centers in Bommanahalli Constituency.	1010.00	10.10	25,250.00

Calendar of events: (1) The tender may be downloaded from **01.06.2022** after **4:00 P.M. (2)** Last Date for uploading the Filled Tender Document is **07.06.2022** upto **4:00 P.M. (3)** Pre bid Meeting is **03.06.2022 @ 11:00 A.M. (4)** Date of opening of Technical bid is **08.06.2022** after **4:30 PM. (5)** Date of Opening of Financial Bid is after approval to technical bid by the competent authority. Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours or website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-,
Executive Engineer, Bommanahalli Project Division, BBMP

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Heliport in Kodagu: Officials inspect land

'Seaplane operations can be launched at Harangi'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MYSURU

The State government has proposed to develop an airstrip and a heliport near Kushalnagar for the benefit of tourists visiting Kodagu, one of the major hill stations in South India.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai had announced in his recent budget to develop heliports at three places, including one in Kodagu.

In this connection, a team of officials led by Karnataka State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation (KSIIDC) Managing Director M.R. Ravi, accompanied by Madikeri MLA Appachu Ranjan, inspected the land where the facility has been proposed near the Sainik School at Kudige village.

Speaking to reporters, Mr. Ravi said 49 acres of government land was available near Kushalnagar and it was identified for developing an airstrip. "Since no land was available for developing the heliport at Madikeri, which was the first choice, we thought of developing the airstrip as well as the heliport on the 49-acre plot near Kushalnagar. We need just 5 acres for the heliport and the rest can be developed as an airstrip which can be used for the landing and takeoff of the 20-seater planes," Mr. Ravi said.

Mr. Ravi said plans are afoot for launching the operations of seaplanes in Kodagu in a bid to boost tourism since the infrastructure for their operations was available at Harangi. "If everything goes as planned, seaplanes can land on and take off from Harangi waters. This can help improve connectivity to tourists who can afford such a trip."

Timings
BENGALURU

TUESDAY, MAY. 31
RISE 05:53 SET 18:42
RISE 06:18 SET 19:34
WEDNESDAY, JUN. 01
RISE 05:53 SET 18:43
RISE 07:06 SET 20:25
THURSDAY, JUN. 02
RISE 05:53 SET 18:43
RISE 07:57 SET 21:16

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	33	24
Mysuru	32	21
Bengaluru	30	22

Bengaluru Today
31°C The weather will be slight warm and humid. Night will be pleasant. Spell of rain and thundershower to occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
30°C A slight warm and humid weather to prevail. Night remains comfortable. Chances of light rain and thundershower.

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THE HINDU
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Writers resign from govt. panels to protest textbook revision

They also demand that Rohith Chakrathirtha be arrested for defaming Kuvempu

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

A host of writers have resigned from State government committees and bodies in protest against the recent controversy over textbook revision, lack of action against the textbook review committee chairperson Rohith Chakrathirtha, who allegedly defamed Kuvempu.

Writers S.G. Siddaramaiah, who was president of Rashtrakavi Dr. G.S. Shivarudrappa Pratishthana; H.S. Raghavendra Rao, Nataraja Budalu, and Chandrashekhar Nangli wrote to Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai resigning from their posts on Monday.

"The recent unconstitutional attack and oppression in education, cultural, and political spheres of the State has left us concerned. The government's silence and lack of action on those who have been openly inciting communal hatred undermining the State and federal structure has left us anxious and scared," the letter said, citing the reason for their resignation.

Senior writer and scholar Hampa Nagarajaiah also resigned as president of Rashtrakavi Kuvempu Pratishthana, citing lack of action against persons who have made defamatory statements against Kuvempu and the State anthem. "Since the government has not only not taken any action against people who have defamed Kuvempu and the anthem, but since they have been made members of the official committee, it sends a wrong signal to people," he said in the letter to the Chief Minister.

writers Hampa Nagarajaiah and S.G. Siddaramaiah

Prof. Siddaramaiah has also written to Minister for Primary and Secondary Education B.C. Nagesh and withdrawn permission for the inclusion of his poem "Manegelasada Hudugi" in class IX second language Kannada textbook.

Noted educationist V.P Niranjanaradhya has turned down an invite from the State government to honour him for his work on National Education Policy-2020. "The State government has resorted to communalise and saffronise education and in this process, no curriculum framework, constitutional values and education policy have been followed. Since this exercise and the programme to which I am invited both are led by the Education Minister, I stand by the constitutional values and boycott it," he wrote in response to the invite.

Meanwhile, several progressive writers and advocates held a protest in the city on Monday. Prominent advocates A.P. Ranganath, C.H. Hanumantharaya, and others participated in the protest and demanded that the Mr. Chakrathirtha-led textbook review committee be scrapped and textbooks finalised by Baraguru Ramachandrappa committee be restored. They also demanded that Mr. Chakrathirtha be booked and arrested for defaming Kuvempu and the State anthem. Vatal Nagaraj took out a procession from Mysore Bank Circle with a large portrait of Kuvempu in a chariot playing the State anthem, demanding action against Mr. Chakrathirtha.

Mahesh Joshi, president, Kannada Sahitya Parishat, also demanded action against those who have defamed Kuvempu and the anthem.

Protests set to intensify

Protests against the textbook revision committee and Mr. Chakrathirtha are all set to only intensify. A coalition of progressive students organisations will hold a protest rally at Freedom Park on Tuesday demanding the annulment of the textbook review committee led by Rohith Chakrathirtha and the resignation of Minister B.C. Nagesh.

Karnataka Rakshana Vedike has also organised a protest rally on Tuesday demanding that the government rejects all revision carried out by Mr. Chakrathirtha-led committee and that he must be booked and arrested for defaming the State anthem.

Nagesh meets seer

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Minister for Primary and Secondary Education B.C. Nagesh met Nirmalanandanatha Swami of Adichunchanagiri Mutt on Monday. The meeting came after the seer recently wrote Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai taking objection to recent comments defamatory of Kuvempu and the State anthem. Mr. Bommai had directed Mr. Nagesh to meet the seer and clarify the government's stand, sources said.

"I met the seer and only explained the factual position. There was an FIR against Rohith Chakrathirtha for the now controversial Facebook post. But a 'B' Report had been filed during the Congress regime, as he had only shared something that came on WhatsApp and he was not its author. The seer asked us to bring the real culprit to book, which I assured we would. I also explained to him how lessons penned by Kuvempu have gone up in the new text books compared to the old," Mr. Nagesh told *The Hindu*.

Cabinet approves legislature resolution urging Centre to clear Mekedatu project

It also clears drinking water project for 12 villages in Gangavati taluk

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Cabinet on Monday approved the resolution of the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council that urged the Centre to provide clearance to the Mekedatu drinking water project.

Government sources said that the Cabinet also approved the resolution passed by both the Houses that the DPR for Godavari-Krishna-Pennar-Cauvery-Vaigai-Gundar project taken up by Tamil Nadu should not be cleared till the decision on the distribution of the rightful share of all the basin states are established. Following the Cabinet approval, it will be sent to the Centre, sources said.

The government also decided to consider those Karnataka gazetted probationers A and B post where selected candidates have not reported to work as vacant posts. Such posts will be treated as new posts during the next recruitment process, the Cabinet approved on Monday while giving clearance to bringing amendment to Karnataka Gazetted Probationers Recruitment (Appointment through competitive examination) rules 1997.

Sources said that some candidates who are selected for Group A and Group B posts do not report to duty citing various reasons. However, when such vacancy arises, candidates who have got different posts or candidates who have not cleared the examination approach the court seeking appointment for such posts. If such things happen, then it will affect the entire list, sources said.

The government has decided to notify the change and invite objections for the proposed change. If there are no objections, the amended rule will be notified without bringing the issue before the Cabinet again.

Among other decisions, the Cabinet approved construction of court complex at Puttur in Dakshin Kannada at a cost of ₹26.9 crore and drinking water project for 12 villages in Gangavati taluk in Koppal district at a cost of ₹18.85 crore.

The Cabinet also approved the hearing impaired free Karnataka programme and fund the cochlear implant surgeries and services.

BJP and Congress eye fourth RS seat

BJP announces candidature of Lahar Singh; Congress fields Mansoor Ali Khan

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The battle among political parties to take the fourth seat in elections to Rajya Sabha from Karnataka is curiously poised with the Congress fielding its second candidate Mansoor Ali Khan and the BJP announcing its third candidate Lahar Singh Siroya though both the parties do not have adequate numerical strength in the Assembly to ensure their victory on their own.

Elections area being held for four seats of Rajya Sabha from Karnataka.

With Tuesday being the last date for filing nomination, all eyes are now on the JD(S), which is expected to field its candidate, to know how it would navigate in a triangular fight where none of the three parties have enough numbers to secure victory of their candidates - raising fears of cross-voting and horse-trading.

Set to win

The BJP leaders are tight-lipped about the party's strategy for the additional seat. While 45 votes are required for winning, the JD(S) and the BJP have 32 each and the Congress has 25 votes. In the other three seats, the BJP is set to win two and the Congress will win one.

On Monday, Congress candidates - former Union Minister Jairam Ramesh, and Mansoor Ali Khan - filed their nomination while BJP candidates Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, actor Jaggesh and Mr. Lahar Singh are filing their nomination papers on Tuesday. The election to four seats is slated to be held on June 10.

Congress leader Siddaramaiah with party candidates Jairam Ramesh and Mansoor Ali Khan arriving to file nomination papers in Bengaluru on Monday. • K. MURALI KUMAR

- JD(S) MLC N. Thippeswamy told *The Hindu* that party candidate Kupendra Reddy will file his nomination on Tuesday after the legislature party meeting.

JD(S) MLC N. Thippeswamy told *The Hindu* that party candidate Kupendra Reddy will file his nomination on Tuesday after the Legislature Party meeting.

"The party leaders are talking to leaders of other two parties to enable an unanimous election and prevent unsavoury incidents of horse-trading and cross-voting. We have tasked our candidate to muster the required votes from other parties." Defending the party's decision to field the candidate, he said that it was fair that all parties get their share of seats in Rajya Sabha.

Without commenting on seeking help to ensure the victory of its second candidate, KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar said that the party did not field a candidate last time, hinting at the Congress' help in enabling JD(S) supremo H.D. Deve Gowda to sail through unanimously.

"Even we have our own calculations and everyone has shortage of votes for the fourth candidate. I will not comment on the issue of seeking support," he told reporters here.

Congress sources said the party fielded Mr. Khan as the second candidate deliberately to expose any possibility of understanding between the BJP and JD(S), and prevent a possible support of the party's legislators to the JD(S) candidate.

On Sunday, Mr. Kupendra Reddy had met Mr. Shivakumar and the Leader of Opposition in Legislative Council B.K. Hariprasad soliciting their support to the candidature, triggering speculation of the Congress fielding the second candidate. "

Station masters' strike today

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

All-India Station Master's Association has called for a day's strike on Tuesday. Station masters will avail mass leave to press for their pending demands.

FROM PAGE ONE

Farmers' leader Rakesh Singh Tikait attacked in Bengaluru

"It is a conspiracy by the BJP and failure on the part of the government to provide security cover despite requests being made a day before the programme," one of the organisers alleged.

Mr. Tikait, speaking to media persons, condemned the physical attack on him at the press conference earlier in the day. "I never expected a physical assault in Karnataka. A media channel that had done the sting operation was asking provocative questions with an aim to increase their TRP. Then suddenly a person walked up to the stage and hit me with a mic. Luckily, I used my hand to block the blows, failing which I would have suffered a head injury. My hands are swollen," he said, adding the incident was a failure of the State government.

"There were Intelligence people in the room. How did this happen? This was a preplanned attack. I demand the police conduct a fair probe into the incident and bring to book all those behind the incident," he said.

Another farmers' leader Yuddhaveer Singh, who was also present at the press conference, said given that the attackers carried a poster of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and shouted "Modi Modi", it was up to the ruling dispensation to conduct a fair probe. State farmers' leader Chukki Nanjundaswamy has announced a black flag protest across the State on Tuesday.

Meanwhile, Mr. Tikait denied all allegations made against him by Mr. Chandrashekhar. "The allegations are baseless and without any evidence. Farmers' movement is a historic movement that forced the Union government to roll back the three farm laws. Yes, we were negotiating with the government, but not to broker an end to protest," he said. When quizzed whether he suspected the involvement of Mr. Chandrashekhar, he said the police must probe everyone, Mr. Chandrashekhar, the news channel or any others.

Condemning the attack on Mr. Tikait, KPCC president D. K. Shivakumar said that the attack had brought dishonour to the State. "This is a pre-planned attack when he was participating in a meeting to discuss farmers' welfare. The Chief Minister (Basavaraj Bommai) has said that he would bring a good name for the State and Bengaluru at the international level. But such incidents do not augur well for the state's honour. The Congress supports Mr. Tikait," said Mr. Shivakumar, who met the farmers' leader after the attack.

Leader of the Opposition in Legislative Assembly Siddaramaiah too condemned the attack on Mr. Tikait.

Insurance for govt. staff

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Monday said that cashless Karnataka Arogya Sanjeevini programme will be soon extended to government employees since the Cabinet has approved it.

Speaking after inaugurating the State-level sports and cultural competition organised by Karnataka State Government Employees' Association, he said that it has been decided to set right the anomaly in pay between State and Central government employees by instituting the seventh pay commission this year. He also lauded the work of government employees during the pandemic and also in the economic recovery later by collecting ₹15,000 crore revenue.

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No. SEE/Tr(M)/BMAZ(N)/EE(O)/AEE-3/F-103|20)/22-23/2054 Date: 30.05.2022
TENDER NOTIFICATION (E-Procurement mode Only)
KPTCL invites bid against Enquiry No. KPTCL/SEE/Tr(M)/BMAZ(N)/EE(O)/AEE-3/22-23/EPR-05/CALL-2 dated: 30.04.2022 for the Work of strengthening of earth mat at 66/11kV Nandini Layout pertaining to BMAZ North Circle, Bengaluru.
The detailed notification regarding the subject tenders can be got by logging on to https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in with hyperlink e-Procurement-KPTCL or to https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in on or after 01.06.2022.
Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Elec., Transmission (Maint.), BMAZ North Circle, KPTCL, Office Complex, Ground Floor, A.R. Circle, Bengaluru - 09. Ph/Fax: 080-22386686-85.

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform the general public that, my Client Mrs. A.Ishwarya, W/o. H.Balasubramani Swaran, Residing at Sai Serenity Layout, Seegehalli Virgonagar, Post, Bangalore - 560049, has Lost the Original General power of Attorney dated 08.02.2006, Which is Registered as document No.253/2008 at Book-IV in the office of the joint Sub-Registerar, Saidpet, South Chennai, Tamilnadu Pertaining to plot No.160 of An Extent of 2400 Sq feet in new survey No.594/1B & 594/2A2A2 (Patta No.5537) (old Survey Nos.504/1 & 594/2A2) in Karthik nagar (Layout approval No.C.S.A.R/D.T.C.P/885-14/L.P.5) situated at Valarperam Village in sriperumbudur Taluk, Kancheepuram District, Tamilnadu Last at Avalahalli Bus Stand, on 28-05-2022, a Complaint is lodged in Avalahalli Police Station Dated 29-05-2022 vide lost report bearing petition No.780/1916/2022, Finders may return the same to the near police station or contact at the below address.
K. V. NAVEEN KUMAR, Advocate
Office: Manith Law Associates,
Hanuman Building, Bhatrahalli Signal,
K.R Puram, Virgo Nagar Post, Bangalore - 560049.

T.S.CO-OP OILSEEDS GROWERS' FEDERATION Ltd.,
9th FLOOR, PARISRAMBHAVANAM, BASHEERBAGH, HYDERABAD-4.
TEL No: 23235501/02.. E-mail: tsoilfed@gmail.com
E-Tender Notice No. P&P/DPP-APPT/POWER PLANT/504/22-23 Dt: 30.05.2022
TSOILFED, Hyderabad invites sealed tenders from potential and reputed manufacturers, companies authorized for the "Design, Supply, Fabrication, Erection & Commissioning Of Captive Co-Generation Power Plant Consists Of 30 TPH Boiler, 2.5MW Turbine With 40m3 RO & MB Plant On Turnkey Basis (EPC)" at our oil palm processing Plant at Apparaopet, Bhadradri Kothagudem Dist Telangana State.
Note: 1. Publish of E-Tender: 31.05.2022 at 05.00PM. Pre bid meeting on 07.06.2022 & Last Date for uploading e tender: 16.06.2022 at 3:00 PM. 2. All Details related to Tender will be available in e-Tender Website : https://tender.telangana.gov.in
Sd/- MANAGING DIRECTOR - TSOILFED.

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan Race Course Road
Bengaluru – 560 001. website : www.kiadb.in
No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-11/ 3154/2022-23 Date: 30.05.2022
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK e – Procurement Portal Only)
Tender under two cover bid system is invited for the works mentioned below as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Contractors holding valid Class-I (Civil) issued from KPWD, Government of Karnataka who have got adequate financial resources, state of the art technology, suitable construction equipments, technical man power & sufficient past experience for the work of (1) Formation of Industrial Layout including formation of 30m wide road, 18m wide road including Asphalting, construction of RCC side drains, RCC Culverts, Rain Water Harvesting, HDPE Dual water supply pipe line etc,. of Yarehalli Block for Harohalli 5th Phase Industrial Area, Ramanagara District. (2) Formation of Industrial Layout including formation of 18m wide Road, Service road including Asphalting, construction of RCC side drains, RCC culverts, Rain water harvesting, HDPE Dual water supply pipe line etc., of EV Units Block for Harohalli 5th Phase Industrial Area, Ramanagara District (3) Formation of Industrial Layout including formation of 30m wide Road, 18m wide road (including Asphalting, construction of RCC side drains, RCC Culverts, HDPE Dual water supply pipe line etc., of Kanchugaranahalli Block for Harohalli 5th Phase Industrial Area, Ramanagara District (4) Formation of Industrial Layout including formation of 30m wide Road, 18m wide road including Asphalting, construction of RCC side drains, RCC Culverts, Rainwater Harvesting, HDPE Dual water supply pipe line etc., of Kanchugaranahalli Kaval Block for Harohalli 5th Phase Industrial Area, Ramanagara District.
Last date for submission of bids is: 30.06.2022 upto 04:00 pm
Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the E-Procurement Portal https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.
Sd/-
Chief Engineer-1, KIADB Bengaluru
DIPR/CP/691/Zen/2022-23
STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
ವಿಜಯನಗರ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ
VIJAYANAGAR INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, BALLARI Cantonment Area,
Director:8147796529, CAO:8147796526, PA: 8147796539, website: www.vims.karnataka.gov.in
e-mail : directorvimsballari@gmail.com
No. VIMS/SUP/01/2022-23 DATE: 26.05.2022
RE-E-TENDER NOTIFICATION
Tenders are invited from eligible Bidders for Supply of Sugical Disposables and Suture Materials to VIMS, Ballari Under Rate Contract as per the KTPP Act-1999 & Rules-2000 under Two Cover Bid System through e-procurement portal of Government of Karnataka. Further information may be obtained during office hours & also from website:https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in
1. Commencement of download of e-Tender Form from website-https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in: 26.05.2022. 2. Last Date for Queries on or before: 31.05.2022 upto 5.00 pm. 3. Pre-bid Meeting: 01.06.2022 @ 11.30 AM in the chambers of Director, VIMS, Ballari. 4. Last Date for Uploading of Tender in e-procurement platform on or before: 09.06.2022 upto 5.00 pm. 5. Last Date for Submission of Samples on: On or before 09.06.2022 up to 4.00 pm to the Medical Superintendent, Medical College Hospital, VIMS, Ballari. Without samples items will not be considered. 6. Opening of Techno-Commercial Bid: 10.06.2022 @ 05.15 PM. 7. Approximate cost of the Tender: 155.80 Lakhs
Sd/- Director, VIMS, Bellary.
DIPR/Ballari/86/MCA/2022-23

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

DEATH

Mr. M. Karthik (43)
Special Correspondent
The Hindu, Coimbatore
passed away on 29-05-2022.
Address: G-403, Shriram Shankari Apartments, Thayir Itteri Road, Near Mani's Nagar, Rathinapuri, Coimbatore - 641027.
Mobile: 7708065750

REMEMBRANCE

Mrs. Saroja Sundaram (Amma)

Our mother passed away at the Ottawa Heart Institute in Ottawa, Canada on the 21st of May 2018 at the age of 84 after a brief and unexpected illness. Amma was free of bigotry and prejudice, extremely intelligent and well-informed and a soft, kind and exceptionally selfless and generous person who always placed her own interests and comforts last. Her granddaughter Akhila was the apple of her eye and there was nothing that she treasured more than being with her. Akhila too loved her soft and indulgent Appamma immeasurably and misses and shall forever miss her kindness and gentleness and warmth.

Amma is survived by her brother-in-law Mr. P. N. Balagopal, her brother-in-law Mr. P. N. Viswanathan and sister-in-law Mrs. Kamala Viswanathan, her sister-in-law Mrs. Bhagavathy Ramaswamy, her brother Mr. P. V. Iyer and sister-in-law Mrs. Gayathri Iyer, her brother Mr. P.G.S. Mony and sister-in-law Mrs. Lalitha Mony, her daughter Jaya and son Ravi, her daughter-in-law Shubha, her granddaughter Akhila, and many loving nieces, nephews, relatives and friends from all over the world.

IN BRIEF

Former Kerala legislator withdraws petition

KOCHI

Former legislator P.C. George on Monday withdrew his petition challenging the cancellation of bail in a hate speech case by a trial court in Thiruvananthapuram. The petition was withdrawn following the Kerala High Court granting him bail in the case.

Vijay Babu postpones return from Dubai

KOCHI

Actor-producer Vijay Babu, facing rape charges, continued to remain elusive as he postponed his scheduled return from Dubai on May 30 at the last minute. Apprehensions of being arrested on his arrival seem to have led to the decision.

HC stays probe against one serving, two retired IAS officers

A plaint stated that six former officers had caused a loss of ₹269 crore to the exchequer

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Monday stayed criminal proceedings and a probe against two retired and one serving IAS officers initiated by a special court on a private complaint, which had alleged that six former officers of the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (RDPR) Department had caused loss of ₹269 crore to the exchequer by misappropriating public funds during the period 2009-15.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna passed the interim order on the petitions filed by retired IAS officers and former principal secretaries of RDPR Department Amita Prasad and T.M. Vijay Bhaskar (who is also former Chief Secretary) and serving IAS officer E.V. Ramana Reddy, who is currently working as Additional Chief Secretary (Commerce and Industries Department).

CORRUPTION CASE

A special court (for cases under Prevention of Corruption Act), Bengaluru, had on April 18 directed the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) to conduct an inquiry under Section 202(1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) and submit the report to the court within four months on the allegations made in the complaint lodged by S. Narayanaswamy, a social worker from Kolar district.

Also, the special court had said that an inquiry was essential whether or not there is sufficient ground for proceeding further against the officers while pointing out that under Section 202(1) the police are having limited power for investigation without registration of the case and arrest of the accused to find out existence of *prima facie* case.

On the allegation of misappropriation of funds pointed out in the complaint based on an audit report, the petitioner-officers had said that they had served in the department after the alleged actions.

While pointing out that even the auditor, who was examined by the special court, had not made any allegations against the petitioner-officers, it has been contended in the petition that the audit report had found fault only with two other former officers of the department, Bore Gowda and Ramakrishna, and then manager of SyndicateBank.

It has been also contended in the petition that the special court could not have initiated action against the petitioner-officers sans prior sanction from the competent authority as per the provision of the law.

Air traffic controller suspended

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Aviation regulator DGCA has suspended an air traffic controller for three months for approving simultaneous departures of IndiGo flights at the Bengaluru airport on January 7 that led to them coming too close just after take off.

The two IndiGo flights averted a mid-air collision over the Bengaluru airport, just after their simultaneous take off from north runway and south runway, respectively, on January 7 morning.

The incident was called "breach of separation", which happens when two aircraft cross the minimum mandatory vertical or horizontal distance in the airspace.

In a statement on Monday, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) said, "South tower controller gave departure to 6E 455 in coordination with Approach Radar controller and at the same time north tower controller gave departure to 6E 246 without prior coordination with south tower controller and Approach Radar controller."

As both aircraft after departure were on converging heading (moving towards each other), Approach Radar controller gave diverging heading to separate these aircraft, the regulator noted. "At the closet point of conflict, the vertical and lateral separation between both aircraft was 100 feet (standard 1,000ft) and 0.9 NM (standard 3NM)," it said. This entire matter was classified as a "serious incident" and was investigated by the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB), it noted.

WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY

TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 17.00 HRS)

Forecast for Tuesday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal and Kerala. Thunderstorm with lightning/gusty winds likely at isolated places over Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, central Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa, coastal Karnataka, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Yanam and Lakshadweep

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	38	32.5	24.1	Kozhikode	–	34.0	26.0
Ahmedabad	–	42.0	28.0	Kurnool	–	39.8	28.0
Aizawl	–	28.2	20.4	Lucknow	–	38.7	27.5
Allahabad	–	41.2	28.0	Madurai	0.2	37.2	25.3
Bengaluru	–	30.4	21.6	Mangaluru	–	31.2	24.1
Bhopal	–	41.4	28.4	Mumbai	–	34.5	28.8
Bhubaneswar	–	34.6	24.4	Mysuru	2	33.2	21.4
Chandigarh	–	38.3	30.4	New Delhi	–	40.6	27.8
Chennai	–	39.4	29.1	Patna	1.4	36.7	25.6
Coimbatore	–	34.2	23.4	Port Blair	7	29.2	26.6
Dehradun	0.4	36.3	24.6	Puducherry	–	37.9	26.4
Gangtok	0.2	20.7	16.3	Pune	–	36.1	23.6
Goa	–	33.8	26.6	Raipur	–	43.0	28.5
Guwahati	–	35.8	25.6	Ranchi	–	37.6	24.1
Hubballi	–	34.0	22.0	Shillong	–	24.7	16.5
Hyderabad	–	39.7	28.0	Shimla	–	30.2	21.0
Imphal	2	29.9	22.1	Srinagar	–	25.7	14.3
Jaipur	–	43.2	21.5	Thiruvananthapuram	19	31.2	24.6
Kochi	0.6	31.0	24.8	Tiruchi	53	38.3	25.0
Kohima	–	25.4	14.7	Vijayawada	–	41.4	30.8
Kolkata	–	35.5	27.2	Visakhapatnam	–	35.2	29.4

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing — Yesterday

CITIES	SO2	NO2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	60	43	48	38	109	
Bengaluru	12	77	6	68	90	
Chennai	–	31	43	54	52	
Delhi	14	44	51	241	210	
Hyderabad	6	32	132	59	152	
Kolkata	14	14	21	92	113	
Lucknow	6	69	48	148	142	
Mumbai	2	69	42	96	65	
Pune	117	21	114	121	85	
Visakhapatnam	–	–	47	–	–	

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Bihar Sharif, Bihar recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 365 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Gangtok, Sikkim recorded a healthy AQI score of 26

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Probe woman's plaint against husband: Karnataka HC

'Chargesheet filed by police shoddy'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Terming the investigation conducted by the Bengaluru police as shoddy, the Karnataka High Court has ordered further probe into a complaint by a woman that her husband had sexually abused her by forcing her into unnatural sex and circulating obscene pictures of her to her father and some friends.

The court found that the chargesheet filed by the Viveknagar police in 2019 was silent on serious allegations of forced unnatural sex and circulation of obscene pictures as the police had invoked only the Section 498A (husband or relative of husband of a woman subjecting her to cruelty) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) against the accused-husband.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna passed the order while allowing a petition filed by the woman seeking further probe and dismissing the petition filed by the husband questioning the chargesheet.

While directing that the further probe will have to be carried out by a different investigation officer, the court observed that "either the State or the Commissioner of Police should take stock of such shoddy investigations by investigating officers, who either lack competence or deliberately indulge in such investigations."

"It is high time the head of the Department sets its house in order, by appropriately dealing with such investigating officers on the departmental side," the court observed.

Both the woman, a native of Chhattisgarh, and her husband, a resident of Bengaluru, were alumni of the IIT, Mumbai. They married in 2015 in Bengaluru under Special Marriages Act after falling in love with each other when both of them were pursuing their PhD programme in 2013.

Though she was living with him and her mother-in-law in Bengaluru after marriage, she returned to her parental home within three months after marriage as he allegedly started abusing and forcing her into unnatural sex.

Though she joined him again for a brief period on his assurance of good behaviour, she permanently left him in 2016 as there was no change in his behaviour.

Later, it was alleged in the complaint, that he started threatening her and her father of releasing her obscene photos and videos and in fact he had circulated some of her obscene pictures to her father, and her few friends. It was at this stage the woman lodged a complaint with the Chhattisgarh police, who transferred it to the city police.

"The graphic details in the complaint and the contents of the statements recorded by the police are completely thrown to the winds by the investigating officer. The offence punishable under Section 377 of IPC or under the Information Technology Act is given a go-bye," the court observed.

While pointing out that the charge sheet has no reference on the contents of mobile phone of her father, which was seized and sent for forensic examination, the court noted that the cellphone of the husband was not seized to investigate offences punishable under Sections 66E and 67 of the Information Technology Act.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of Health Officer(East), 9th Floor, Public Utility Building, M.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 001.
No.: HO(E)/TEN-MC/01-56/22-23 Date: 25.05.2022
INVITATION FOR TENDERS
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)
The Health Officer(East) invites tenders from the registered and experienced Manpower agency / firms for the Services across various Wards of East Zone as specified below:

Sl. No.	Name of the Wards	EMD (in Rs.)
Range : Sarvagna Nagar		
1	Providing Manpower and Vehicular Services in Ward No. 23-Nagavara(ST/ST), Ward No. 24-HBR Layout, Ward No. 27-Banasavadi, Ward No. 28-Kammanahalli, Ward No. 29-Kacharakana halli, Ward No. 30-K.G. Halli, Ward No. 49-Lingarajapuram(SC/ST), Ward No. 59-Maruthi Sevanagar.	10,715/- for Each Ward
2	Providing Vehicular Services for Fogging / Spraying Works in UNIT1 & UNIT2.	27,096/- for Each UNIT
Range : Hebbal		
3	Providing Manpower and Vehicular Services in Ward No. 18-Radhakrishna Temple, Ward No. 19-Sanjayanagar, Ward No. 20-Ganga Nagar, Ward No. 21-Hebbal, Ward No. 22-V. Nagenahalli (SC/ST), Ward No. 33-Manorayanapalya, Ward No. 34-Gangenahalli(SC/ST), Ward No. 46-J.C. Nagar.	10,715/- for Each Ward
4	Providing Vehicular Services for Fogging / Spraying Works in UNIT1 & UNIT2.	27,096/- for Each UNIT
Range : Pulikeshinagar		
5	Providing Manpower and Vehicular Services in Ward No. 31-Kushalnagar, Ward No. 32- Kaval Byrasandra(SC/ST), Ward No. 47-D.J. Halli, Ward No.48-Muneshwaranagar, Ward No. 60- Sagayapuram(SC/ST), Ward No. 61-S.K. Garden, Ward No. 78-Pulikeshinagar.	10,715/- for Each Ward
6	Providing Vehicular Services for Fogging / Spraying Works in UNIT1(SC/ST) & UNIT2.	27,096/- for Each UNIT
Range : C.V. Raman Nagar		
7	Providing Manpower and Vehicular Services in Ward No. 50-Benniganahalli, Ward No. 57-C.V. Raman Nagar, Ward No. 58-Hosa Thippasandra, Ward No. 79-Sarvagna Nagar (SC/ST), Ward No. 80-Hoysalanagar, Ward No. 88-Jeevanabhima Nagar, Ward No. 113-Konena Agrahara (SC/ST).	10,715/- for Each Ward
8	Providing Vehicular Services for Fogging / Spraying Works in UNIT1) & UNIT2(SC/ST).	27,096/- for Each UNIT
Range : Shivajinagar		
9	Providing Manpower and Vehicular Services in Ward No.62-Ramaswamy Palya, Ward No. 63-Jayamahal, Ward No. 90-Halsoor, Ward No. 91-Bharathi Nagar, Ward No. 92-Shivaji Nagar, Ward No. 93-Vasanth Nagar, Ward No. 110-Sampangirama Nagar.	10,715/- for Each Ward
10	Providing Vehicular Services for Fogging / Spraying Works in UNIT1 & UNIT2.	27,096/- for Each UNIT
Range : Shanthinagar		
11	Providing Manpower and Vehicular Services in Ward No.89-Jagapalya, Ward No.111-Shanthala Nagar, Ward No.112-Domlur, Ward No.114-Agara(SC/ST), Ward No.115-Vannarpete, Ward No.116-Nilasandra & Ward No.117-Shanthi Nagar.	10,715/- for Each Ward
12	Providing Vehicular Services for Fogging / Spraying Works in UNIT1 & UNIT2.	27,096/- for Each UNIT

1) Tender documents may be downloaded from e-procurement portal from : **01.6.2022, 4.00 p.m. onwards. 2)** Pre-bid meeting : **07.06.2022 at 4.00 p.m. 3)** Last date for receipt of completed tenders: **15.06.2022 upto 4.00 p.m. 5)** Date of opening of technical bids: **16.06.2022 at 11.00 a.m.** Further details can be accessed from GoK e-procurement website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or contact the office of the undersigned.
Sd/- Health Officer(East).
STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

Government of Karnataka
REVENUE DEPARTMENT
Bhoomi Monitoring Cell,
First Floor, SSLR Building, KR Circle, Bengaluru - 560001.
Phone no 080-22113255, Email: bhoomi.bmc01@gmail.com
No: BMC/ADM(Tender)01/2022-23 Date: 30-05-2022
E-TENDER NOTIFICATION
Tenders are invited from reputed firms for Providing 50 Software Engineers/Resources to Bhoomi Monitoring Cell For Bhoomi Project. The last date for uploading filled tender forms in e-procurement portal is 11.06.2022 by 5.30 PM. Details regarding terms and conditions of the said tender are available at **http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.** portal.
Sd/-
Assistant Commissioner,
Bhoomi Monitoring Cell,
Revenue Department,
DIPR/CPI/650/Zenkar/2022-23
COVID-19 - DON'T SPREAD RUMOURS. ACT RESPONSIBLY. AVOID INFECTION-NOT THE INFECTED.
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(Varahi Hydro Electric Project)
CIN No: U85110KA1970SGC001919
No.: KPCL/2022-23/PS/WORK_INDENT12255/Call-2 Date:26.05.2022
ABSTRACT BID NOTIFICATION
(Through e-Procurement Platform)
Tenders are invited for the work of **"Design, Manufacture, Supply, Retrofit and Commissioning of Mani Dam Power House Unit-2 Turbine Rotor"** at an estimated Cost of **Rs. 1,43,71,401/-** inclusive of GST. Bidders can access the bid document on website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in EMD : Rs. 2,15,600/-.** Last date for submission of completed bids: **06.06.2022 upto 16.00 Hrs.** Further details can be had from the **Executive Engineer(O&M), Mani, KPCL, Masthikatte- 577425,** Shivamogga, Karnataka State. Phone: 08185-265222, Mobile: 9449598851, e-mail: eeomkpcl@gmail.com

SDS TRC & Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Chest Diseases
(An Autonomous Institute, Government of Karnataka)
(Reg. No.SOR/BLU/DR/671/09-10 Dtd:23.09.2009)
Someshwarnagar 1st Main, DRC Post, Near NIMHANS, Bengaluru-560029.
Ph.: 080-26088571/623/667 email:sdstbrgicd@gmail.com, director.rgicd@gmail.com
No.SDS/TND/07/2021-22 Date:- 26.05.2022
Tender Notification (e-Procurement)
Sub:- Procurement of Drugs, Chemicals, Disposables and Other Items through e-procurement at SDS TRC & RGICD, Bengaluru.
Tenders are invited through e-procurement for Procurement of Drugs, Chemicals, Disposables and Other Items from Primary Manufacturers, Marketed Companies, Authorised Dealers/ Distributors through e procurement. Tender schedule is hereunder:

Tender Notification	SDS/TENDER/07/2021-22
Commencement of download of e-Tender Form from website- https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in	31.05.2022
Prebid Meeting	07.06.2022 at 11.00 am
Last date for Submission of Samples	27.06.2022 Upto 4.00 pm
Last Date for Uploading of Tender in eprocurement platform on or before	24.06.2022 Upto 5.00 pm
Opening of Technical Bid	29.06.2022 at 3.00 pm
EMD	Rs. 40,000-00

Sd/-
Director, SDS TRC & RGICD
DIPR/CPI/683/ALAVANDA/2022-23
COVID-19. DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

Government of Karnataka
(Department of Public Instruction)
KARNATAKA TEXT BOOK SOCIETY ®
No.4, DSERT Building, 100ft Ring Road, Banashankari, 3rd Stage, Bengaluru-560085. e-Mail: mdktbs.tender@gmail.com
website: http://www.ktbs.kar.nic.in Ph: 080-26422238/45
No: A8/KTBS/AUDIT TENDER-29/2021-22 DATE : 30-05-2022
TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-Procurement portal only)
Online tenders are invited in two bid system for Internal audit of the **(1)** Karnataka Textbook Society®, Bengaluru head office. **(2)** 204 Block level Textbooks godowns. **(3)** 34 District level godowns and **(4)** 4 Divisional level textbook godowns for the year 2022-23 by AG empanelled Charted Accountants who are having an head office in Bengaluru. Eligible agencies may offer their bidding till **5:30 PM, 06.06.2022**. The EMD prescribed is **Rs. 30,000/-.**
The detailed Tender Document may be downloaded from **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in,** and **http://www.ktbs.kar.nic.in**
e-Portal Help line:080-46010000 080-22631200
Sd/- Managing Director,
KTBS, Bengaluru

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(Ballari Thermal Power Station)
CIN: U85110KA1970SGC001919
No.:KPCL/2022-23/PS/WORK_INDENT12352 & 12353 Date: 23.05.2022
BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-Procurement portal only) (Two Cover System)
Tenders are invited through GoK e-procurement portal **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** from the reputed Contractors/agencies/firms having adequate experience for the works of **(1) Annual overhauling works(AOH) of bowl mills, seal air fans and its auxiliaries of (UNIT #1 or UNIT-2) and UNIT#3 for the year 2022-23.** Amount put to the Tender (Approx.): **Rs. 33.21 Lakhs.** EMD: **Rs. 66,424/- (2) Annual overhauling works of coal/pulverized fuel(PF) piping, couplings and pipe bend, hangers and its connetced accessaries of (UNIT#1 or UNIT-2) and UNIT#3 for the year 2022-23.** Amount put to the Tender (Approx.): **Rs. 36.96 Lakhs.** EMD: **Rs. 73,854/-** Last date & time for Online submission of tenders (for both tenders): **13.06.2022, 15.00 Hrs.** Opening of Technical Bids (for both tenders): **14.06.2022, 15.10 Hrs.** Opening of Price Bids (for both tenders): **14.06.2022, 15.30 Hrs.** Further details can be had from the office of the **Executive Engineer (MM),** BTPS, KPCL, Kudithini-583 152. Ballari Dist. Mob: +91-94482 90571.

Government of India
Department of Atomic Energy
Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
O&MDC&I Division
Post Bag no. 1, Yelwal, Mysore 571 130
Telephone:0821-2406660 Fax:0821-2403064
NOTICE INVITING TENDER Date : 28/1/2022
The Chief Engineer, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mysore invites on behalf of the President of India, Sealed tenders in two parts from experienced Contractors with sound financial & technical capacity for the following work(s):

Tender Reference No.	BARC/ MYS/DCI/ ELEC/ WT- 01/2021- 22 dtd. 28.01.2022
Name of the Work	Internal Electric Power Distribution works at BARC, Mysore"
Estimated Cost	₹ 200 lakhs (Rupees Two Hundred Lakhs only)
Completion Period	12 Calendar months including monsoon period.
Earnest Money Deposit	₹ 4 lakhs (Rupees Four Lakhs only)
Tender Sale Period	On LINE

The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the **https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.** The NIT is also available on **www.barc.gov.in.** For the details of NIT contact **0821 240 6610/6660, (9448938269, 8096802264) email: gshegde@barc.gov.in; kvbrao@barc.gov.in**
Sd/-
Chief Engineer, BARC
For & on behalf of the President of India

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
DISTRICT URBAN DEVELOPMENT CELL
Ramanagara District, Ramanagara - 562 159.
Phone : 080 - 2727 4108. E-mail : dude_ramangara@yahoo.co.in
No. : DUCU/MUN(1)/Amrutha Nagarothana-4/TPH/CR-25/20222-23
Date : 25-05-2022
TENDER NOTIFICATION
The Executive Engineer, DUDC, Ramanagara District, Ramanagara invites tenders from Class-I Contractors for **Amrutha Nagarothana (Municipality) - 4 Project** works as detailed below.
1) Description of Work : Road and Drain Development works in Town Panchayath, Harohalli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramangara District, under Amrutha Nagarothana (Municipality) - 4 Project (Indent No. DMA/2022-23/RD/WORK_INDENT 132082). Amount put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs) : 301.14. EMD Amount (Rs. in Lakhs) : 4.52. Period of Construction : 9 Months.
Interested Contractors shall register on the E-procurement platform to participate in this Tender. Contractors can Download the Tender Document from the E-procurement platform **www.eproc.karanakata.gov.in.** Tenders shall be submitted electronically at **www.eproc.karanakata.gov.in** EMD and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically.
Calendar of Events and other information's are as follows.
1) Pre-Bid Meeting : 16-06-2022 at 11.30 hrs. 2) Last Date for Uploading of completed Tender Documents : 27-06-2022 upto 17.00 hrs. 3) Date of Opening of Tenders (Technical Bids) : 29-06-2022 at 11.30 hrs.
Tenders conditions and further information can be obtained from the said Office during working hours. If any changes in the calendar of events and the conditions will be notified on E-procurement Portal only.
Sd/- Executive Engineer,
District Urban Development Cell
Ramanagara District, Ramanagara.
DIPR/Ramanagar/65/Manipal/2022-23

PUBLIC NOTICE
Our client **Vikram Chugh** intends to purchase the property described in the Schedule hereunder from the owner **Mr. Krishna Reddy, S/o Late Munishami Reddy.** Any person/s, firms, societies, institutions (corporate or otherwise) claiming to have any right, title, interest, benefit, claim or demand in, or to the Schedule Properties and / or any part thereof, by way of sale, agreement, exchange, gift, grant, lease, tenancy, license, assignment, mortgage, charge, lien, trust, family arrangement / settlement, encumbrance, inheritance, bequest, easement, possession, maintenance, development rights, order / decree / judgment of any Court / Statutory Authority, agreement, understanding or otherwise howsoever, to the Schedule Properties is required to intimate the same in writing together with true copies of all documentary proof in support thereof, to the undersigned, at the address given below, within Seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, our client shall proceed ahead to purchase the Schedule Property and no further claims in respect of the Schedule Property would be considered any time thereafter.
Schedule Property
ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of the non-agricultural land bearing Survey No. 104/2 measuring 01 Acre 34 Guntas and 06 Guntas of Kharab situated at Addevishwanathapura Village, Hesarughatta Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Bangalore and bounded by :

East by	:	Property in Survey No.174
West by	:	Property in Survey No.103
North by	:	Property in Survey No.105
South by	:	Property in Survey No.104/1

Sd/- S T Prashantha Kumar, Fox Mandal & Associates,
Legal Services, Primrose Road, Craig Park Layout, Ashok Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560025,
Mobile : 9880162142 / 8971116111, Phone: 080-30554100.

Shiver and seizure

The Congress seems intent on going back on its promises to its party workers

Not many people expected the Congress to practise what it said it would at the Chintan Shivir or brainstorming in Udaipur, Rajasthan, from May 13 to 15, but its list of candidates for the Rajya Sabha seems to have confirmed the views of the most cynical. Rarely has a political party abandoned a set of principles within days of announcing it with such boisterous aplomb and self-righteousness as the Congress has done in this case. The Udaipur Shivir resolved that the "principle of 'one family, one ticket' should be ensured". A retirement age for leaders for elected posts was suggested, though no specific decision was made. These moves would have been a good start, though not in the least sufficient, to stir some fresh thought, infuse some new blood and breathe new life into the party. But far from making any serious attempts to adhere to this modest reform agenda, the Congress party trampled all over it, if not in letter, most certainly in spirit. The exclusion of Anand Sharma and Ghulam Nabi Azab, who have been in the Upper House for four and five terms, respectively, merely shows that scores have been settled rather than fidelity shown to any principles. Who will now be waiting for its 2024 Lok Sabha candidate list in which the Congress has promised to include 50% of those below 50 years of age?

At the end, of the 10 members the Congress will send to the Upper House, there are at least two who are the second members of their family to represent the party at the State legislature or Parliament; all five seats that the party can win in Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh – the last two States where it has Chief Ministers – have gone to leaders from outside. Even the candidature of Randeep Singh Surjewala is not from his home State of Haryana, but Rajasthan. As it happens, the Congress is holding State-level congregations across the country on June 1 and 2 to communicate the decisions taken in Udaipur. The Rajya Sabha list hardly forms an inspiring backdrop to that exercise. The party demands blood and sweat from its workers, and offers bounties to a select few. All this has naturally triggered resentment in the party, as there are no objective and defensible criteria that the Congress has followed. This utter disregard, and in fact, humiliation of the ordinary worker has already brought the Congress to its knees. Any other party would have held those responsible for its string of defeats to account. The Congress brand of politics has been reduced to deal making among the small club of managers and power brokers without a support base. While that might suit those who control it, any analysis that pins hope on the Congress to be a source of democratic revival in India must be tempered by a cold shower of sobriety.

Born to win

Despite the drop in TRPs, the IPL seems set for a long run with top-notch cricket

A debutant team winning a trophy is a unique sporting high. Gujarat Titans did precisely that while clinching the Indian Premier League (IPL) title through a clinical display against Rajasthan Royals during Sunday's final in front of a delirious home crowd at Ahmedabad. Summit clashes, except in rare episodes, can be tepid affairs despite all the hype and the IPL climax dished out a low-scoring tussle on a dry surface. But credit is due to the Titans for remaining the stand-out unit through the tournament that remained anchored in Mumbai and Pune before shifting base to Kolkata and Ahmedabad in the concluding stretch. The league also offered some redemption for all-rounder Hardik Pandya, the Titans' captain. Often weighed down by injuries and the comparisons with Kapil Dev, Pandya finally turned the corner, leading Titans with finesse, scoring brisk runs and prising out valuable wickets like he did in the final – scalping Jos Buttler, Shimron Hetmyer and Royals' skipper Sanju Samson. Through the IPL's long summer, Titans always had consistent performers chipping in without fail. In the final too, players cutting across skill-sets and nationalities excelled, be it spinner Rashid Khan or batters Shubman Gill and David Miller while Hardik too etched a 34. For Royals, there were expectations about the team wresting the cup as a tribute to its first captain, the late Shane Warne.

However, sport does not entirely ride on emotion and Royals stumbled at the last step. But there was no shame as the squad did remarkably well until the final with Buttler leading the run charts, scoring tons almost at will. Royals last won the title during the 2008 inaugural edition and the latest comeback augurs well for Samson's men. Another debutant unit, Lucknow Super Giants, also performed fine to book a last-four slot. That Titans and Giants stayed the course allayed those fears about a bloated league with 10 teams, throwing up forgettable cricket. Instead it was the established behemoths, former champion Mumbai Indians and defending champion Chennai Super Kings, that ate humble pie and reiterated the surprise factor in sport. India's blue-chip batters – skipper Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli – had a horror run while the success of rookie speedster Umran Malik, spinner Yuzvendra Chahal and veteran Dinesh Karthik, who blitzed with a strike-rate of 183.33, revealed that hope is intrinsic to the league. In a year that will witness the ICC Twenty20 World Cup, the league was a selection-primer. But a few worries remain and those are centred on the IPL's commercial heft. The drop in TRPs hints at saturation with the event and the organisers need to find ways to get back viewership. Other than that, the league is here to stay with 10 teams to boot.

Doses of statecraft to meet India's challenges

It is clear that grand strategy, grand simplifications and higher measures of security are not the answers

M.K. NARAYANAN

The war in Europe, involving Russia and Ukraine – with Kyiv being backed by western powers and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) – and the political turmoils in South Asia dominate newspaper headlines today. This has pushed the debate on India's many internal security problems on the backburner. This is unfortunate, for many long-standing security problems have a propensity to wax and wane and seldom seem to go away.

Limitations of a security vigil

While the country's security agencies do maintain a tight vigil, what is seldom realised is that security agencies can only deal with the immediate threat. Long-term solutions require the use of statecraft. Additional doses of security whenever a situation arises are at best a temporary solution. This does not amount to problem solving. To change the mindsets of both the authorities and those challenging the existing order, it may be first necessary to admit that more and more security has its limitations. The next step is even harder, viz., to admit that the forces threatening the state have lately become nimbler in adopting new technologies and modes of warfare.

In many countries, both the authorities and security agencies are beginning to acknowledge the importance of resorting to statecraft as a vital adjunct to the role played by the security agencies. Statecraft involves fine-grained comprehension of inherent problems; also an ability to quickly respond to political challenges. It further involves strengthening the ability to exploit opportunities as they arise, and display a degree of political nimbleness rather than leaving everything to the security agencies. In short, it entails a shift from reposing all faith in the security establishment to putting equal emphasis on implementation of policies and programmes. In effect, it shifts the emphasis to formulating strategies that favour political deftness, strength and agility, after the initial phase.

Upheaval in Kashmir

Two prime examples which provide grist to the above proposition are the prevailing situation in Jammu and Kashmir and the continuing problem involving Maoists. While Jammu and Kashmir has been a troubled region ever since 1947, the situation has metamorphosed over the years – at times tending to become extremely violent followed by spells of near normalcy. No proper solution has emerged to a long-standing problem.

The ongoing violence in Jammu and Kashmir which started almost 18 to 20 months ago is an instance in point. Political angst over the revocation of Article 370 of the Constitution is possibly one of the reasons for local support being available for the current crop of Jammu and Kashmir militants. A majority of them are believed to be home-grown militants, though backed by elements from across the border in Pakistan. Irrespective of the reasons for the latest upsurge in violence, what is evident is that Jammu and Kashmir has again become the vortex of violence, specialising currently on targeted killings of outsiders, mainly Kashmiri Pandits.

Migrant Kashmiri Pandits returning to Jammu and Kashmir have, no doubt, been given certain concessions, including government jobs. This might have acted as provocation, but what is equally disturbing is the targeted killings of police personnel, many of whom were on duty while some others were on leave. Information filtering out of government vaults suggests that terrorists may have infiltrated the official machinery. They also appear to have access to data banks of the police and security agencies. All this is leading to an atmosphere of uncertainty. Concerns exist that this year's Amarnath Yatra (beginning end June) could well be one of the targets of the militants. If this were to happen, it might well result in a crescendo of violence, leading to large-scale upheaval across Kashmir.

Evidently, the doctrine of containment pursued by the Jammu and Kashmir police and security agencies is not having the desired effect. Security analysts believe that a sizeable segment of the new cadres fall into what they perceive as 'unpredictable', and this further aggravates the situation. The history of Jammu and Kashmir is replete with instances where a sizeable presence of such 'unpredictable' elements has tilted the scale in favour of greater violence. What is also disturbing is that strategies intended for one set of militants can seldom be applied to newer elements, making it more difficult to contain the spread of violence. In Jammu and Kashmir today, as also elsewhere, there is no all-in-one grand strategy to deal with the situation. The missing ingredient is statecraft which alone can walk in step with the changing contours of a long-standing problem.

GETTY IMAGES

The Maoist shadow

While problems seem to be mounting for the security establishment in Jammu and Kashmir as of now, across several heartland States of India, the police face a different kind of threat. Of all the strands of the militancy in India, Maoists or Naxalites stand apart as being the only ones with strong ideological underpinnings. Notwithstanding its ideological veneer, Maoists/Naxalites nevertheless tend to indulge in mindless violence carrying out brutal killings. The original Maoist leaders in Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala (in the late 1960s and early 1970s) who were inspired by Charu Mazumdar who talked of a 'Spring Thunder over India' (followed by his claim to have lit a spark to initiate a 'prairie fire') have since been replaced by lesser leaders with few ideological pretensions.

The combination of ideological ideation and brutal killings has often confused and confounded the police, intelligence and security establishments of the States and the Centre. In that sense, the Maoists represent the biggest challenge to the idea of India. While railing against the use of State violence, and from time to time displaying a willingness to hold peace talks with both the State and Central governments, the Maoists have seldom displayed a commitment to peaceful ways. New adherents, thanks to its ideological underpinnings, are meanwhile readily available, and this further perplexes the authorities who often tend to claim 'that Maoism is on its last legs'. More than any other militant or violent movement in the country, curbing the Maoist menace will require considerable doses of statecraft, as many of the purported demands of the Maoists find an echo among intellectuals in the cities and the 'poorest of the poor' in the rural areas.

In Punjab and the North-east

The need to use statecraft to deal with quite a few other internal security problems – some of which have lain dormant for years – is also becoming more manifest by the day. In this category may be included the resurgence of militancy by pro-Khalistan groups in the Punjab, which could spill over into Haryana and Himachal Pradesh. The recent discovery of 'sleeper cells' in the Punjab clearly indicates the potential for the revival of a pro-Khalistan movement – which once ravaged large parts of the Punjab. While pro-Khalistani sentiment is present in pockets in the United Kingdom and in Europe, it has not been in evidence in India for some time. Hence, the recent attack by pro-Khalistan elements on the headquarters of the Punjab Police Intelligence wing in Mohali was a rude shock to the security establishment. The incident appeared to be like a warning shot 'across the bow' by the Babbar Khalsa International, which has the backing of Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence – a reminder that militancy in the Punjab has not been permanently extinguished, and will need deft statecraft to nip it in the bud.

In India's North-east, more specifically in the States of Assam and Nagaland, there are again incipient signs of trouble which, for the present, may need use of statecraft rather than the security forces. In Assam, the United Liberation Front of Asom-Independent (ULFA-I) is trying to revive its activities after a long spell of hibernation. Currently, the ULFA-I operates from Myanmar, and its fortunes have been on a steady decline in the past decade. However, latest reports indicate that ULFA-I has embarked on a recruitment drive which will need to be curbed before matters get out of hand. Likewise in Nagaland, where the National Socialist Council of Nagalim (I-M) has recently initiated a fresh push for a solution of the 'Naga political issue', the situation is pregnant with serious possibilities. Both instances merit the use of statecraft so that the situation does not get out of hand.

A threat in the South

In the South, intelligence and police officials appear concerned about a likely revival of Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE)-sponsored activities in Tamil Nadu. This stems from a possible revival of LTTE-sponsored militancy in Sri Lanka following the recent economic crises and uncertainty there. Security agencies in India believe that an attempt could be made to reach out to elements in Tamil Nadu to revive the spirit of the 1980s. This situation again needs deft statecraft to prevent a resurgence of the past.

Hence, it should be evident that statecraft is critical in finding lasting solutions to a host of problems that continue to afflict India. India faces several challenges today, but the answer to this is neither grand strategy nor grand simplifications nor resort to higher doses of security. India must navigate its way through a complex set of circumstances and situations, and suitably manage crises which might otherwise undermine peace and stability. A properly structured set of policies, having liberal doses of statecraft in addition to a proper set of security measures, is the best answer to India's needs, now and in the future.

M.K. Narayanan is a former Director, Intelligence Bureau, a former National Security Adviser and a former Governor of West Bengal

Needed, education data that engages the poor parent

What India lacks — and needs — is data which can hold the local vision of education and local actors accountable

PRIYADARSHINI SINGH

When the children of the poor cannot read and write, when they do not play and dance in school, can the poor speak and demand change? We gather data on enrolments, retention, learning, infrastructure, and teacher training to understand the state of our public school system. But is data enough to inspire transformative change?

The case of Rajasthan

The case of Rajasthan is intriguing. Media writings in recent years have variously highlighted the marked fall or improvement in learning outcomes, depending on the dataset being referred to – the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) which is led by the non-governmental organisation, Pratham, or the National Achievement Survey (NAS) which is led by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT). According to ASER 2019 data, Rajasthan was among the bottom five States in learning levels, while in NAS 2017, Rajasthan was among the top performers. Valid as this debate is, it has limited resonance for the ultimate end-user of a government school, i.e. the parent. Much like the Public Report on Basic Education (PROBE) in India of 1999 which highlighted the very poor state of government school infrastructure – shocking the education community in India – these debates do not involve school users.

Data on school education is collected to measure and monitor, fix flaws and reward achievements at the State and the national levels. Its end users are school administrators, government agencies, researchers, and civil society activists. Despite near consensus among policymakers and those who produce the data, that parents are one of the key constituencies of school data, and intense efforts to disseminate data among them, it is rarely used by poor parents. For them, schooling is about examination outcome, which is a proxy for learning, English language skills and a chance for secondary and graduate level degrees. Data on school infrastructure at the district level, or learning levels at the State level cannot galvanise the masses; at worse it can come across as a descriptor of the way things are in a government system – immutable, and hopeless.

One form of a vision

To inspire transformation, data has to be linked with a vision of school education which addresses the anxieties and aspirations of parents, and is actionable at the level of governance closest to them, i.e. the local administrative and political system. The poor will speak when the data speaks to them and they can speak to the authorities empowered to act.

FARIHA FAROOQUI

A national-level policy is just one form of an inspiring education vision. Ideally, it should encompass the essence of the vision of the people. And the vision will manifest itself differently at the national, State, district and local levels and exist in both policy and non-policy forms – for example, in the workings of say panchayat schools, when it focuses on learning and personality development among migrant children, or non-governmental organisation programmes strengthening teacher capacity for multilingual classrooms. Presently, there is no vision of education below the national level, least of all at those which engage the marginalised.

The district and school development plans introduced in national-level programmes such as the District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) have largely remained administrative practices. They were not representatives of parent-school consensus on what schooling means. Community-based consultative bodies such as the school management committees and parent-teacher committees could not become platforms to facilitate this.

Balancing objectives

A locally rooted education vision is one that emerges from social and political consensus on why a child needs a school education. Is it to reach college? Is it to get a job after school? Is it for personality development? Is it to be an active citizen? What does a top-class government elementary school mean? This vision has to be led by local political actors and become a central part of local politics which involves both formal actors such as political party workers, and non-formal ones such as community leaders. This does not mean that ideas, practices and policies from the national level are discarded as irrelevant and elitist. Elite ideas are not necessarily elitist. On the one hand, a vision of schooling will balance immediate, tangible, popularly understandable objectives such as reading, writing as well as livelihood relevant skills and knowledge. On the other, it will include long term and abstract objectives such as peer connections, negotiating social diversity, and curiosity for new knowledge and experiences.

There is nothing about the poor that suggests that they cannot imagine schooling beyond basic livelihood to include art and culture. It is the skill and dynamics of local politicians and politics, respectively, to uphold such a vision and ensure its implementation through contestation.

Presently, our school education is de-politicised, except for a few aspects such as history curriculum, language of instruction and so on. These energise national politics. Not local level contestations where some of the issues are rather settled, parents want English language competency for their children, and what they learn in history is not as worthy as maths.

The right data

It is only when data is connected with a locally developed and politically owned vision of school education that it will move beyond the administrator and the activist. Social welfare is about people, and their participation has to be simple, intuitive and energetic. If the right systems of governance and authority are designed and tools to engage with them are made available, the poor will speak up. What we lack and need is data which can hold the local vision of education and local actors accountable as much as the one we have right now, which focuses on the national one. Why should a 30-year-old parent in Bundi district in Rajasthan care whether her district had contradictory results on learning surveys of ASER and NAS? The data we collect assumes that she does not need to. It is not her business.

Priyadarshini Singh is Research Fellow, Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

To read more letters online, scan the QR code

Aadhaar use, misuse

The Aadhaar card has come to be regarded as an all-purpose *de facto* proof of identity; a photocopy is being demanded and shared freely wherever it needs to be produced (Page 1, "Centre retracts caution on Aadhaar photocopies", May 30). It is difficult to understand what kind of "normal prudence" can be observed; where a copy needs to be submitted, it has to be submitted. It would be far better if the Government releases a list of places where a copy of Aadhaar need not or should not be shared. When it comes to the 'masked Aadhaar', ordinary citizens cannot be expected to have the knowledge or wherewithal to download the same, without depending on some private Internet centre – the risk of misuse by the service provider cannot be ruled out. In these circumstances, it would be better if the Government issues an original "masked Aadhaar" along with the normal Aadhaar card at the time it is issued and advise citizens to share a copy of the 'masked Aadhaar' only wherever a photocopy needs to be submitted as proof of identity. For citizens who have already been issued a normal Aadhaar card, a 'masked Aadhaar' may be issued to them immediately.

KOSARAJU CHANDRAMOULI, Hyderabad

Sunday's grand ending

It is fitting that the Gujarat Titans won the IPL 2022 trophy beating an equally matched Rajasthan Royals. Sunday's win brings to an end about two months of cricket entertainment. There are new names and new stars. No matter what the purists say, the IPL entertains like no other. From the teenager to the octogenarian lover of cricket, it is a great tournament. We wait for IPL 2023.

SUBASH BALAKRISHNAN, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada

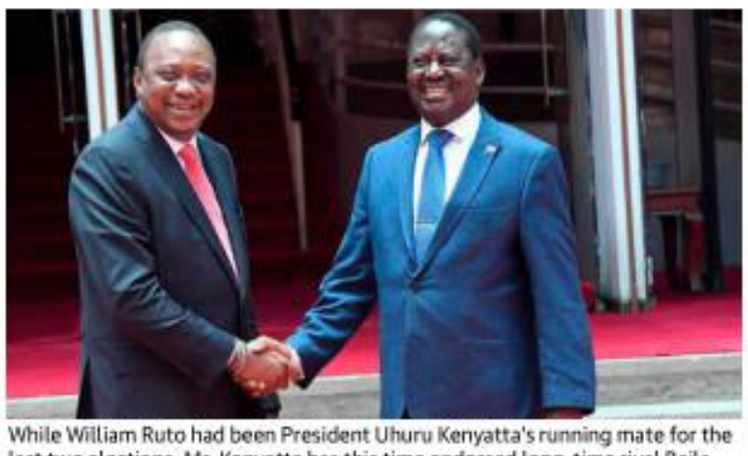
• Throughout the tournament, the Gujarat Titans played positive cricket. The confidence and the composure of Hardik Pandya produced the right results. The tournament was well-organised and unearthed some special talents such as Umran Malik.

V. GANAPATHY SUBRAMANIAN, Nagercoil, Tamil Nadu

An epic contest between Ruto and Odinga

In this Kenyan election too, the roles played by ethnicity and tribalism are likely to be decisive

APARAJITA BISWAS



While William Ruto had been President Uhuru Kenyatta's running mate for the last two elections, Mr. Kenyatta has this time endorsed long-time rival Raila Odinga. File photo of Mr. Kenyatta (left) and Mr. Odinga's famous handshake. • AFP

Kenya goes to the polls on August 9, 2022, to elect the country's fifth President, besides national lawmakers, governors and assemblies of its 47 counties. Without a doubt, Kenya's upcoming elections will be among the most significant political events in Africa at a time when democratic governance is receding in parts of the continent. The fact that Kenya is one of Africa's major democracies, and given its history of election-related violence, these polls are important and will be closely watched. A smooth process will consolidate democratic gains in the country and serve as a symbol for the rest of the continent. Political campaigning is in full swing and the debates mostly revolve around political dynasties, tribal power-brokers, and changing inter-ethnic alliances. Grievances about ethnic, financial, and vote-rigging corruption are existential.

A close watch

India is keeping a close watch on the Kenyan election because of the political, economic and cultural relationships forged between the two countries over a considerable period of time. The visit of India's External Affairs Minister to Kenya during the pandemic only underscored the importance that India places on strengthening ties with this crucial East African neighbour. For a maritime country and a regional powerhouse such as India, Kenya assumes immense strategic significance and serves as a gateway to the wider Indian Ocean Region. Kenya's friendship is important to India to curb China's growing aspirations in the region. Also, India faces a number of security threats in the backdrop of a dramatic rise of piracy and terrorist activities in the region. Moreover, Kenya has a vibrant community of Persons of Indian Origin presently numbering 80,000, including 20,000 expatriates. Indians are a successful community, and while their political preferences may differ, they mostly favour a closer bonding between the two countries.

There are a few marked similarities between India and Kenya. Democratic values, pluralism and the rule of law are important for both countries. Like Indians, Kenyans are interested and involved in politics, and are active on social media. Much like caste-based politics has remained centre stage in India's political landscape for decades, ethnic politicking is common in Kenyan politics. In Kenyan politics, the Kikuyu, Luhya, Kalenjin and Luo are the four dominant tribes who have practically ruled the country since independence. In this election too, the roles played by ethnicity and tribalism are likely to be decisive, with voting likely to be along tribal lines.

The candidates

This election has a crowded field of candidates. The leading contenders are Vice President William Ruto and the perennial challenger, Raila Odinga. This is the first time since Kenya's independence that a Kikuyu has not emerged as the main presidential candidate - Mr. Ruto is a Kalenjin, the third largest ethnic group, and Mr. Odinga is a Luo, the fourth largest ethnic group. While Mr. Ruto had been President Uhuru Kenyatta's running mate for the last two elections, Mr. Kenyatta has this time endorsed long-time rival Mr. Odinga, who was the leading contender in the 2017 elections. The famous handshake between President Kenyatta and Opposition leader Odinga in 2018 stunned the country. The amity began that year when they declared a truce after post-election violence in 2017 and lived up to the dictum that politics is the art of the possible. The effect has been a topsy-turvy recasting of political alliances. The handshake and truce have injected considerable unpredictability in the outcome of this election.

The two leading candidates have chosen running mates from the vote-rich Kikuyu ethnic group, the support of which could be vital in determining the outcome. While former Prime Minister Odinga has settled for former Justice Minister Martha Karua, a political icon known for campaigns against corruption, Vice President Ruto has picked businessman Rigathi Gachagua, who is an able political negotiator.

The prominent issues for the contest have been framed clearly by both the parties. Mr. Ruto and his coalition have framed the general elections as a contest between "hustlers" and "dynasties". In Kenya, 'hustlers' refers to those people, especially the young, who struggle to make ends meet in an economy that is said to be no longer working for them. 'Dynasties' is a pointed reference to Mr. Kenyatta's and Mr. Odinga's privileged upbringing as sons of the country's first president and vice president, respectively. By contrast, Mr. Ruto has spoken of how he went to school barefoot, and how he once "hustled by selling chickens by a roadside".

Regarding Kenya's economic agenda, Mr. Ruto has proposed a 'bottom-up' economic model in which the structure of the economy will be geared to help the common man. Mr. Odinga's campaign, on the other hand, is focused on attacking corruption, especially in high places. The reference to high places is said to be an attack again Mr. Ruto, who has been accused of amassing huge amounts of wealth during his time as Deputy President.

The ethnicity factor

Analysts say despite economic issues emerging as a possible determinant of how people will vote, ethnicity still has a strong influence on the electorate. Besides the issue of inclusivity of all communities in government positions/appointments, the question of Kenya's foreign debt is also core to the 2022 elections. Various organisations have carried out opinion polls to gauge the voting intentions in Kenya. All of them show that a neck and neck competition, with Mr. Ruto and Mr. Odinga tied at 42%.

How does the Indian diaspora fit into this election activity? In 2017, Kenyans of Indian descent were officially recognised as the 44th tribe in Kenya because of their contribution to the country since independence. The recognition has given them a sense of shared identity with the Kenyans. However, there is no candidate of Indian origin contesting for the presidential election. It would in any case be a very tall order given the ethnic dynamics of Kenyan politics. Nonetheless, there are a few candidates of Indian origin in some constituencies running for parliament. An interesting feature of Indian diaspora candidates is that they have increasingly emerged in constituencies outside the cities, in Western and Central Kenya where they had settled, speak the local language, and have developed political constituencies.

It is difficult to gauge who the Indian diaspora may support in the presidential elections. In electoral terms, the Indian diaspora is not a homogeneous community. While the big businessmen generally support government candidates, there is also the view that they hedge their bets and support Opposition candidates, especially when the Opposition's winning prospects are high.

At present, all Kenyans are hoping for a free, fair and peaceful poll.

Aparajita Biswas, former Professor and Director, Centre for African Studies, University of Mumbai, is currently associated with The Strathmore University, Kenya

Of lungs, trees and sin stocks

Large corporate enterprises themselves are making efforts to reduce the harm of tobacco consumption

LANCELOT PINTO & MAHUA ACHARYA

The second Global Adult Tobacco Survey estimated that 28.6% of all adults in India used tobacco in 2016-2017, second only to China. The survey said 42.4% of men and 14.2% of women used tobacco – both the smokeless form, i.e. chewing tobacco, and smoked form, i.e. cigarettes and 'bidis'.

In 1987, the World Health Organization (WHO) marked 'World No Tobacco Day' to bring attention to the ill-effects of tobacco. 'Poisoning our planet' is the theme for May 31 this year, in an effort to highlight the ill-effects of tobacco on the environment.

Harm to health and environment

In 2021, smoking killed about 8 million people. But tobacco is not just a bane on human health. According to the WHO, 600 million trees are chopped down annually to make cigarettes, 84 million tonnes of CO_2 emissions are released into the atmosphere, and 22 billion litres of water are used to make cigarettes. In addition to the environmental costs of production, cigarette butts, packaging, plastic pouches of smokeless tobacco, and electronics and batteries associated with e-cigarettes pollute our environment.

India, the world's second largest producer of tobacco, produces about 800 million kg annually. Most efforts to counter the tobacco epidemic have been directed at creating awareness about the ill-effects of tobacco. These have borne fruit. Over 90% of adults in India, across strata, identify tobacco as being harmful. Additional gains in overcoming the ill-effects of tobacco are therefore unlikely to come from more awareness campaigns alone. While several campaigns have also dealt with finding alternative livelihoods for tobacco farmers, an issue that sometimes goes unnoticed is deforestation.

About 6 million farmers and 20 million farm labourers work in tobacco farming across 15 States (Central Tobacco Research Institute). Although farming of tobacco only contributes to 1% of GDP as per one study, the direct health expenditure on treating tobacco-related diseases alone accounts for 5.3% of total health spending in India in a year (WHO). Despite this, farming of tobacco cannot be stopped without serious economic consequences and/or social disruption.

Thankfully, there are market-based solutions. The forestry community has devised solutions and instruments to incentivise the reduction of deforestation through the use of carbon credits. With the surge in new commitments to zero carbon from the international commodity sector, companies are putting pressure on their supply chains to transition to sustainable practices and reduce deforestation. Companies like Unilever, Amazon, Nestlé, Alibaba, and Mahindra Group are pledging to cut emissions and are poised to invest an estimated $50 billion in nature-based solutions such as carbon sinks. This is driving new interest in sourcing from sustainable landscapes and buying high-quality forest carbon credits. The revenue from this is many times higher than the earnings from selling tobacco leaves.

Cigarette companies themselves appear to be changing. In 2016, one of the largest cigarette companies pledged to begin transitioning its customers away from tobacco to smoke-free products. By 2019, it reported it was spending 98% of its research and development budget to back up this goal. Though first met with scepticism, this strategy of transitioning to 'socially responsible bottomlines' is picking up speed. The rise of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) managers has helped. By looking at exposure to child labour, wasted energy and water, and diversity in management ranks, ESG managers say they have a clearer sense of a company's long-term survival options.

Better than before

Some companies have shown much greater levels of disclosure than their competitors. These statistics don't necessarily show how good the companies themselves are, but rather how much less harmful they are than they used to be. In a way, these so-called front runners are helping sin stocks get recognition for doing less harm than before by quantifying the pace of change. By transitioning to safer nicotine delivery systems, and moving away from tobacco, cigarette companies are potentially lowering the risk of their customers dying from cancer.

So, all is not grim. While there are problems in the business of tobacco and cigarettes, there are options, solutions and global movements being undertaken by the largest corporate enterprises. Educating potential consumers to not consume tobacco, supporting consumers in their journey to quit, and incentivising industry to help consumers and the planet will protect not just our lungs, but also the air we breathe.

Lancelot Pinto is Pulmonologist/Epidemiologist, P.D. Hinduja Hospital; Mahua Acharya is MD and CEO, Convergence Energy Services Limited, Government of India. Views are personal

STATE OF PLAY

For Telangana, a bagful from Davos

For a State that believes that the Centre is giving it the cold shoulder, the new investments are significant

N.RAVI KUMAR

The World Economic Forum in Davos last week provided Telangana an opportunity to help consolidate its position as one of the preferred investment destinations in India. Led by the State IT and Industries Minister K.T. Rama Rao, the delegation to the annual gathering of world political and corporate leaders received investment commitments from several firms in various sectors. The 10-day trip to the U.K. and Davos helped Telangana bag ₹4,200 crore worth of investments, the Minister tweeted.

Mr. Rama Rao also used the opportunity to take a dig at the Centre. He spoke about what India should do to ensure that projects on paper are implemented faster and to garner more investments. India needs revolutionary reforms to strengthen its life sciences sector and compete with the world, he said, touching upon the ambitious Hyderabad Pharma City project of the Telangana government. At a meeting in London, he said Telangana had overcome all kinds of crises to emerge as a favourite destination for global investments.

Less than a week ago, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had said in Hyderabad that reforms have been undertaken continuously since his government came to power in 2014. "Today the world is realising that India means business," he said.

At some other time, Mr. Rama Rao's observations would not have warranted as much attention as it did against the backdrop of strained ties between the TRS-ruled State and the Centre since the bypoll to the Huzurabad Assembly constituency. Sitting TRS MLA E. Rajender had quit amid corruption charges, switched to the BJP and won the election. Soon, ties between the two parties turned frosty. They worsened when the Centre refused to procure more paddy grown in the State. While Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao has been intensifying efforts to build a non-Congress, non-BJP front, the local BJP leadership has continued to build pressure on the State government.

TRS working president and widely perceived as the next in line for the Chief Minister post, Mr. Rama Rao has of late been critical of the Modi government. Telangana believes that it has been cold-shouldered with regard to the sanctioning of major projects in various spheres. The list includes the sanction given by the Centre to the Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor for which Hyderabad and Bengaluru, with their existing ecosystem, would probably have been the best fit; the lack of financial assistance for the Hyderabad Pharma City; as well as the sanctioning of bullet train projects to Gujarat. Mr. Rama Rao has also been accusing the Centre of backtracking on the old promise of a rail coach factory in Telangana. In this context, the joint venture between Swiss firm Stadler Rail and Medha Servo for a ₹1,000 crore rail coach manufacturing unit in Telangana assumes significance. Besides this, Ferring Pharma has announced that it will invest approximately €60 million over the next 2-3 years for establishing another manufacturing facility in the State. Schneider Electric has decided to set up a second manufacturing unit in Hyderabad and Hyundai has said it will invest ₹1,400 crore to set up a Proving Ground. By attracting multiple investments in the pharma space, Hyderabad continues to build on its strengths as the pharma hub of India.

These investments will not just bring in revenue but also jobs. With Assembly polls scheduled next year, there is a sharpened focus on job creation. Not long ago, the State government announced it would fill 80,000 vacancies through direct recruitment and regularise more than 11,000 contract employees.

All attention will now be focused on how soon the investments materialise and which way the political winds blow.

ravikumar.n@thehindu.co.in

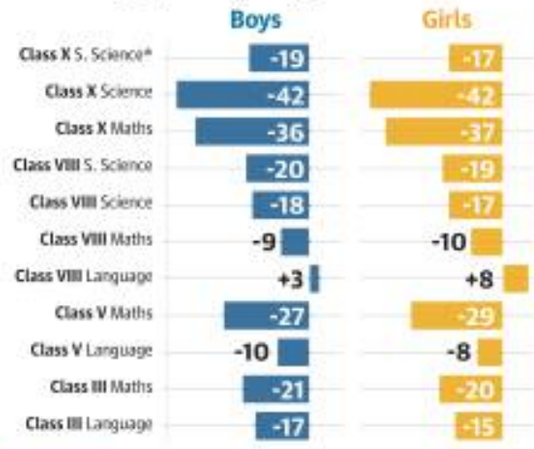
DATA POINT

Marked drop in rural & SC/ST students' scores

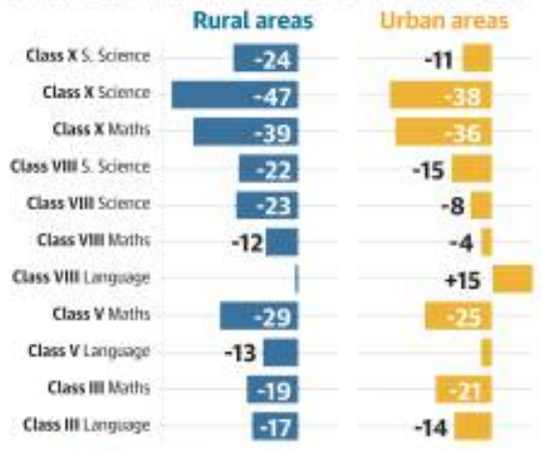
In the Data Point titled 'Not up to the mark' published on Monday, data showed that due to the pandemic, the marks scored by Indian school students in the National Achievement Survey (NAS) examinations dropped significantly across classes. Further analysis shows that the impact was more pronounced among rural students. The mean score of Class X rural students in the Science exam declined by 47 marks in 2021 compared to 2018, whereas for urban students, there was a smaller decline of 38 marks. Similarly, the impact was greater on SC, ST and OBC students compared to the general category.

By **Rebecca Rose Varghese** and **Jasmin Nihalani**

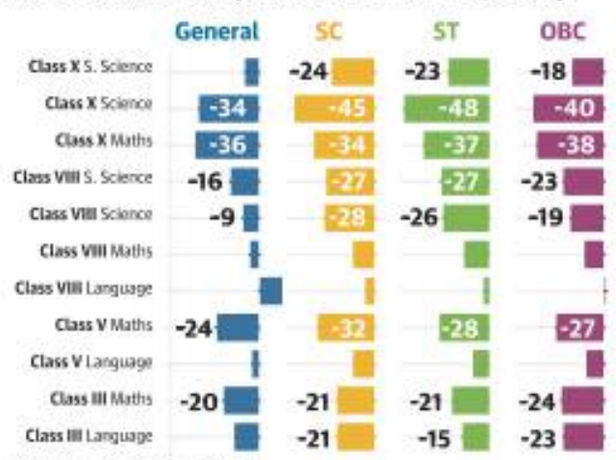
No gender divide | The graph shows the difference between the mean score in 2021 compared to the score in 2017/2018 across classes and subjects among male and female students. The drop in scores did not vary significantly along gender lines


Boys
Girls
Class X S. Science* -19 -17
Class X Science -42 -42
Class X Maths -36 -37
Class VIII S. Science -20 -19
Class VIII Science -18 -17
Class VIII Maths -9 -10
Class VIII Language +3 +8
Class V Maths -27 -29
Class V Language -10 -8
Class III Maths -21 -20
Class III Language -17 -15

Urban-rural divide | The graph shows the difference in the mean score in 2021 compared to 2017/2018* in rural and urban India. For instance, in the Class VIII Science exam, the score of urban students declined by 8 while that of rural students dropped by 23

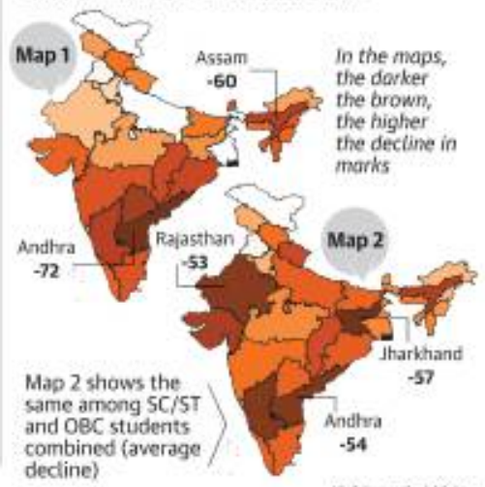

Rural areas
Urban areas
Class X S. Science -24 -11
Class X Science -47 -38
Class X Maths -39 -36
Class VIII S. Science -22 -15
Class VIII Science -23 -8
Class VIII Maths -12 -4
Class VIII Language +15
Class V Maths -29 -25
Class V Language -13
Class III Maths -19 -21
Class III Language -17 -14

Among SC/ST/OBC students | The graph shows the difference in the mean score in 2021 compared to 2017/2018. For instance, in the Class X Science exam, the score of general category students dropped by 34 marks, while that of SC, ST and OBC students declined by 45, 48 and 40 marks, respectively


General
SC
ST
OBC
Class X S. Science -24 -23 -18
Class X Science -34 -45 -48 -40
Class X Maths -36 -34 -37 -38
Class VIII S. Science -16 -27 -27 -23
Class VIII Science -9 -28 -26 -19
Class VIII Maths
Class VIII Language
Class V Maths -24 -32 -28 -27
Class V Language
Class III Maths -20 -21 -21 -24
Class III Language -21 -15 -23

SOURCE: NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AGENCY

Mapping the drop | Map 1 shows the difference between the mean marks scored in 2021 and those scored in 2018 among rural students in the Class X Science exam


Map 1
Assam -60
In the maps, the darker the brown, the higher the decline in marks
Andhra -72
Rajasthan -53
Map 2
Jharkhand -57
Andhra -54
Map 2 shows the same among SC/ST and OBC students combined (average decline)

*S. Science- Social Science

The Hindu.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO MAY 31, 1972

Study calls for protection to pressmen

New York, May 30: An independent task force on press freedom in the United States says that "new and potentially corrosive frictions" have arisen between the Government and news media, posing a threat to the free flow of information. The 11-man task force, including judges, journalists and lawyers, said yesterday that questions posed by publication last June of the Pentagon papers remained unresolved and warranted broad re-examination. The task force also called for tougher laws to protect newsmen's sources, an end to the practice of police posing as newsmen and extension of all news privileges to the underground press. The 193-page report was prepared by the Twentieth Century Fund task force on the Government and the press after a 10-month study ending last November. The final version included a 56-page background report by Mr. Fred P. Graham, who covers the Supreme Court for The New York Times. The task force was headed by Mr. Robert Williamson, former Chief Justice of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court. It said that the "present tension" between the Government and press was brought into focus over the past two years by a series of Government subpoenas aimed at compelling newsmen to reveal news sources. "These subpoenas have raised in the clearest form the central issue: that the Government's law enforcement efforts – particularly those directed at political radicals – are taking forms that pose a serious threat to the confidence between journalists and their sources, thus reducing the free flow of information to the public," the report said.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO MAY 31, 1922

New source of light discovered

Professor Newton Harvey, of Princeton University, announces that, after 8 years of study of luminous principles in fireflies, bacteria, crustacea and other organisms, he succeeded in producing "a continuous cold light," by which one can read in an otherwise dark room. Stripped of its scientific verbiage, Professor Harvey's explanation appears to laymen to mean that he has discovered what he calls "Luceferine," but he has not yet succeeded in adding to its powers of illumination sufficiently to put the light to work commercially. One suggested use for the new illuminant may be a safety lamp for miners working in explosive atmospheres.

FROM PAGE ONE

A Congress activist holds a placard during a protest over the killing of Sidhu Moosewala in New Delhi on Monday. • PTI

2 JeM militants killed during joint operation in Pulwama

They were allegedly behind the killing of a policeman in Gadoora area on May 13

PEERZADA ASHIQ
SRINAGAR

Two local Jaish-e-Muhammad (JeM) militants, believed to be behind a targeted killing of a policeman, were killed in a night-long anti-militancy operation on Monday.

One of the dead terrorists, Abid Shah, was involved in the killing of an unarmed policeman, constable Reyaz Ahmad, at his house in the Gadoora area of Pulwama on May 13, Vijay Kumar, Inspector-General of Police, said.

The two militants were surrounded by a joint team of the Army, the police and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) around 5.45 p.m. on Sunday after the Kulgam police generated a specific input about their presence at Gundipora village in Pulwama district.

A joint cordon-and-search operation was launched and the hiding terrorists were trapped inside the house of Nazir Ahmad Mir.

"To avoid any collateral damage due to darkness, the operation was suspended at night and in the early hours, the operation was resumed.

Fighting terrorism: Security personnel near the encounter site in Gundipora area of Pulwama on Monday. • NISSAR AHMAD

In the ensuing encounter, two terrorists, Shah and Saqib Azad Sofi, of Amshipora, Shopian were killed," the police said.

AK rifles recovered

Two AK rifles were recovered from the encounter site, the police said.

Meanwhile, Mr. Kumar, appreciated the joint team for tracking and neutralising the terrorists involved in the recent killing of a policeman in Pulwama.

Curtailing recruitment

He said the police had succeeded to a large extent in preventing youth from taking up arms and were working on multidimensional fronts to prevent local terrorist recruitment.

"Those who motivate and lure young boys towards terrorism are being booked under the Public Safety Act (which allows detention without a trial for two years)," Mr. Kumar said.

Mr. Kumar added that new recruits were being tracked through technical surveillance and were being brought back.

Fuel retailers will not lift stocks today

They seek reimbursement of losses

VIKAS DHOOT
NEW DELHI

Fuel pump dealers from 22 States will not buy any diesel or petrol from oil marketing companies on Tuesday, demanding reimbursement of the losses they incurred on the overnight excise duty reductions announced by the Centre earlier this month and a mechanism to insulate them from frequent excise duty tweaks.

"Since June 2017, when the dynamic pricing mechanism was put in place for fuels, excise duty has been revised eight times, with five instances of excise duty cuts leading to lower retail selling price and causing losses to dealers," the Delhi Petrol Dealers' Association said in a statement with counterparts from Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala, and 15 other States.

On the three occasions excise duty on petrol products was increased since 2017, the retail price was not changed and the benefit was passed on to the oil marketing companies (OMCs), they said. Apart from reimbursements from the OMCs, the dealers want future price changes to happen in line with the deregulated and dynamic pricing mechanism for fuel products.

Deregulated regime

Though India has officially moved to a deregulated pricing regime for fuel products, retail prices are often put on hold by public sector oil majors who dominate the market, despite sharp changes in global oil prices. In recent months, while global crude prices shot up, fuel prices were unchanged for a long period between November 2021 and March this year, and have been frozen again since April 6.

"We demand that our losses on account of excise reduction should be reimbursed by the OMCs and future price changes should happen in line with the dynamic pricing mechanism," the statement said. "Dealers cannot make profit due to increase in excise duty, and they should not be burdened with loss due to reduction."

Retail prices are often put on hold by OMCs.

Last Friday, the Telangana Petroleum Dealers' Association announced a plan to skip purchase of fuels from the OMCs on May 31. It said 15 other States' dealers would do the same. By Monday, more States had joined the cause, seeking higher commissions and safeguards from the losses incurred due to tax cuts, including Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Punjab, Uttarakhand and the northeastern States.

Dealers' commissions have not been revised since 2017 though there was a pact with the oil marketing firms to revise them every six months, the petrol pump operators pointed out, even though their working capital requirements have doubled as fuel prices have almost doubled since then.

"Our constant demand to revise dealer commission has been overlooked by the OMCs, and by doing so, they are making their own network financially unviable," they stressed.

Singer's killing planned from Tihar jail: police

Targeting the AAP government over its alleged failure to maintain law and order, a delegation of Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) met Governor Banwarilal Purohit, demanding that a police case be registered against Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann for violating the oath of office by releasing confidential information about the withdrawal of the security cover of Moosewala as well as other prominent personalities on the AAP portal.

Badal attacks CM

"The Chief Minister, Bhagwant Mann, does not deserve to stay in office for even one minute more," said Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) president Sukhbir Singh Badal as he demanded a probe by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) into the killing of the Punjabi singer.

Mr. Badal said the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) had also requested the Governor to direct the government to order a judicial probe into the lapses committed in ordering the withdrawal of security cover of prominent personalities and celebrities.

'Sense of fear'

Punjab Congress president Amarinder Singh Raja Warring said there was a sense of fear across the State and demanded the dismissal of the AAP government.

He said the Chief Minister had not just proved to be a failure, but a complete disaster, pushing the State into virtual anarchy.

"I have been receiving phone calls and messages from across the State with people telling me that they did not fear for their lives even during the militancy the way they have started dreading for their lives now", he said.

BJP national general secretary Tarun Chugh said, "It has been a complete collapse of the AAP government's intelligence and security network that has been reflected in more than two dozen murder incidents involving public figures in the State since the AAP has come to power."

DGCA slaps ₹10 lakh fine on SpiceJet

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation, on Monday slapped a fine of ₹10 lakh on SpiceJet for using a faulty simulator for training its pilots. Last month, the DGCA barred SpiceJet's 90 pilots from flying the airline's 13 Boeing 737 MAX planes after an inspection of a third-party training centre revealed that the pilots were being trained on a simulator with a faulty stick shaker. The simulator is what warns a pilot of an imminent stall, or the plane falling due to a drastic reduction in its speed.

The DGCA decided to impose a fine on the airline after a response to its show-cause notice was found to be unsatisfactory.

Suit for Hindu prayers inside mosque posted for July 8

Court directs Gyanvapi masjid panel to file objections

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A Fast-Track Civil Court in Varanasi on Monday refused to pass an order on a suit seeking ad-interim relief to allow Hindu prayers inside the Gyanvapi mosque, till the main suit in the dispute is decided.

The court of Civil Judge (Senior Division) (FTC) Mahendra Kumar Pandey heard the plea and directed the plaintiffs to serve a copy of their suit and all relevant documents to the defendants and asked them to file their objection to it. The court has now posted the matter for hearing on July 8.

The court was hearing a suit filed by one Kiran Singh, seeking that Hindus be allowed to pray inside the mosque, claiming the discovery of a "Shivling" inside it. The suit also sought an injunction, asking that the defendants not stop Hindu worshippers from visiting the mosque and offering prayers.

After hearing the plaintiffs, the court heard submissions by the Anjuman Intezamia Masjid Committee and other defendants, who said that they had not been served a copy of the suit.

Senior Advocate Mumtaz Ahmed of the Masjid Committee, said that they asked for a copy of the suit and all relevant documents during the hearing. The court held that passing on order on the suit without giving the defendants an opportunity to make their submissions would not be in the interest of justice, thus posting the matter in July to hear the defendants in the case.

In addition to arraying the mosque management as one of the defendants, the suit also names the District Magistrate of Varanasi, police authorities in Varanasi and the State government as defendants.

Another Hindu outfit – Kendriya Brahman Mahasabha – has filed an impleadment application before the Fast-Track Court, seeking to be arrayed as a plaintiff in the matter.

Women top Civil Services examination

Around 5 lakh candidates appeared for the preliminary examination held in October 2021 out of which 9,214 persons qualified for the written (main) examination and 1,824 candidates appeared for the personality test. Nearly 10 lakh candidates had registered.

According to a statement by the UPSC, there are 180 vacancies in the IAS, 37 in the IFS, 200 in the IPS and 332 vacancies in the Central Services.

Can't keep quiet on Naga issue: BJP to NSCN

The extremists group asked BJP and its MLA not to overstep their role as facilitators of peace process

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI

The Nagaland unit of the Bharatiya Janata Party has hit out at the National Socialist Council of Nagalim, or NSCN (I-M), asserting that the extremist group cannot prevent it from speaking on the "Naga political problem".

The problem pertains to the peace process between the Centre and two Naga extremist entities - one involving the NSCN (I-M) that declared a ceasefire in 1997 and the other involving the Naga National Political Groups, a conglomerate of seven other organisations.

On May 27, the NSCN (I-M) accused BJP Ministers of using "unparliamentary" and "intemperate language" over the Framework Agreement, Naga national flag, constitution and integration.

Tense situation: On May 27, the NSCN (I-M) accused BJP Ministers of using 'unparliamentary' language. • AP

The outfit also slammed Naga People's Front MLA Kuzholuzo Nienu for saying the NSCN (I-M) should either "take it (Delhi's settlement offer) or leave it".

Appreciate enthusiasm

The NSCN (I-M) said it appreciated the "enthusiasm" shown by Nagaland's political leaders, but they should "not overstep their role as facilitators" and make "bewildering statements on the Naga issue". The outfit advised the BJP Ministers and other party MLAs not to "spit venom" against the NSCN (I-M).

"The Naga political issue and its related problems cannot be kept in the dark as everybody deserves to know what is going on and what will happen," the BJP said in a statement, adding that the party would not shy away from advocating "what is needed to be told" because it stood with the Nagas in their aspirations for an honourable and acceptable solution to the issue.

"Right now, our leaders need to speak out for it is high time... We need to be more vocal about what is happening, what we want to achieve, what we need to hold on to, and what we need to let go," the BJP said.

The party said those blaming a few legislators for being vocal needed to understand that the MLAs also represented the voice of the Centre and could not be ignored or dismissed. "Rather, they should be appreciated for voicing out the undeniable and uncomfortable truth that everybody knows and are going through but is not comfortable enough to say out loud in public," it said.

The BJP took the opportunity to be critical of some leaders of other parties who maintained a "comfortably stoic" silence over the matter despite holding influential positions like leading the core committee on the Naga Political issue. Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio, a leader of the Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party, heads this committee.

The BJP began taking potshots at the NSCN (I-M) in March when Minister Temjen Imna Along said the outfit's demand for a separate flag and constitution was not achievable. A few days ago, Deputy Chief Minister Y. Patton said the extremists wanted comforts of life, not solution to the Naga issue.

Court reserves Karti's bail plea order

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A Special CBI court on Monday reserved its order for June 3 on an anticipatory bail application filed by Congress MP Karti Chidambaram in the Enforcement Directorate's money laundering case registered on the basis of the CBI's FIR in the bribes for visa case.

Special Judge M.K. Nagpal directed that the interim protection from arrest granted to Mr, Karti last week will continue till the orders are passed.

The ED has opposed the plea, saying that the apprehension of arrest is not reasonable as the agency has only just registered the ECIR (Enforcement Case Information Report) and that they have barely begun the investigation. They added that the agency is yet to receive crucial documents of the case from the CBI. However, Mr. Karti's lawyers argued that the ED's line of argument proved their point. They alleged that the ECIR in the matter was registered with "haste", "without there even being an allegation in the alleged schedule offence that the applicant [Karti] has received any illegal gratification/proceeds of crime".

Moreover, his lawyers submitted that there is no risk of him fleeing the proceedings, adding that most of the evidence in the case is documentary in nature and is already either with the government or with the probe agencies.

In the CBI case, the court has accepted an undertaking from the agency that it will serve a written notice to Karti three working days in advance, in the event that it intends to arrest him in the case.

ED arrests Delhi Health Minister Satyendar Jain

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate arrested Delhi's Health Minister Satyendar Kumar Jain on Monday in connection with a money laundering case, prompting the Aam Aadmi Party to allege that the action was taken as he was made in-charge of Himachal Pradesh, where Assembly elections are due later this year.

AAP Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh said Mr. Jain was arrested in an "eight-year-old fake case". He had appeared before the ED seven times in the same case, but was never arrested earlier. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) had registered a case against him, but he was given a clean chit, said Mr. Singh.

AAP leader Manish Sisodia said in a tweet that Mr. Jain was arrested to prevent him from going to Himachal.

"BJP is losing badly in Himachal," senior party leader Manish Sisodia said. "That is why Satyendar Jain has been arrested today so that he cannot go to Himachal. He will be released in a few days as the case is completely fake."

The money laundering probe is based on the First Information Report (FIR) registered by the CBI against Mr. Jain and others in August 2017, alleging that assets disproportionate to their known sources of income were acquired during 2015-17 when Mr. Jain was a Delhi Minister.

Last month, the ED had attached properties worth ₹4.81 crore belonging to five companies and others in connection with the alleged disproportionate assets case against Mr. Jain and others. The assets were in the name of Akinchan Developers, Indo Metalimpex, Paryas Infosolutions, Mangalayatan Projects and J.J. Ideal Estate, Swati Jain, Sushila Jain and Indu Jain.

"During the period 2015-16, when Satyendar Kumar Jain was a public servant, the above mentioned companies beneficially owned and controlled by him received accommodation entries to the tune of Rs.4.81 crore from shell companies against cash transferred to Kolkata-based entry operators through 'hawala' route," the ED had earlier said in a statement.

The agency said the funds in question were used to buy land or repay loans taken for buying agricultural land in and around Delhi.

Wife named

Among those named in the CBI case were Mr. Jain's wife Poonam Jain, Ajit Prasad Jain, Vaibhav Jain, Sunil Kumar Jain and Ankush Jain.

4 men in judicial custody in Bombay bomb blasts

Dawood, Tiger Memon are still at large

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Twenty-nine years after the 1993 Bombay blasts, a special CBI court on Monday sent four members of fugitive gangster Dawood Ibrahim to judicial custody till June 13. Abu Bakar, Yusuf Batla, Shoeb Baba and Sayyed Qureshi were arrested by the Gujarat Anti Terrorism Squad on May 17. They were taken into the CBI's custody on May 21 and the agency on Monday sought an extension of their custody. Special judge R.R. Bhosale rejected the plea.

All the four are accused of smuggling and transporting RDX and other explosives, and to transport AK-56 rifles, bomb triggers. They are all from Mumbai, but on their passports their addresses are shown as Mira Road (Thane) for one, two from Bengaluru, and one Tamil Nadu.

Additional DGP Gujarat ATS Amit Vishwakarma, said on May 12 that all the four accused were booked under the Passport Act, as they were accused of obtaining passports on the basis of forged documents. The ATS had duly informed the CBI regarding their arrest and shared all its information, adding that they would be handed over to the agency after their remand ends.

No contempt proceedings against Abhishek: Calcutta HC

MP said judiciary ordering probe by CBI at the drop of a hat

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA

The Calcutta High Court on Monday refused to initiate contempt proceedings against Trinamool Congress MP Abhishek Banerjee for his remarks targeting judiciary. A group of lawyers had filed a PIL seeking contempt proceedings against Mr. Banerjee.

A Division Bench of Justice Sabyasachi Bhattacharya and Justice Krishna Rao observed that stray comments, if taken into account, would make it impossible for the judiciary to function, and dismissed the petition. The court said that it did not find sufficient reason to support *suo motu* contempt and that the comment was made to scandalise it.

Abhishek Banerjee

It, however, noted that no case of contempt was made and it was expected that people having an effect on public opinion should restrain themselves from making any comment that lowered the prestige of the judiciary.

Mr. Banerjee on Saturday alleged that they (the judiciary) were ordering investigation by the CBI at the drop of a hat.

Meanwhile, the Trinamool general secretary on Monday justified his remark by saying that he had the right to criticise a judgment and he has full respect for judiciary.

Will seek PM Modi's advice: R.C.P Singh

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

A day after JD(U) snubbed senior leader and Union Steel Minister R.C.P Singh by refusing him a renomination to the Upper House, Mr. Singh, at a press conference in Patna said, that he will consult Prime Minister Narendra Modi on whether he should continue in the Cabinet, even as he reaffirmed his loyalty towards the Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar.

"For all that I have achieved in my political career so far, I thank Nitish *babu*. I will continue to work for the party organisation in whatever capacity he deems fit for me. As far as Union Cabinet is concerned, since it is the Prime Minister's prerogative I will have to seek his advice. If he says I should resign, I will do so," Mr. Singh said.

Mr. Singh was seeking renomination to the Rajya Sabha for a third time. His present term comes to an end in July. While, it is more or less certain that he will be resigning from the Cabinet his future within JD(U) looks uncertain.

Denial of RS seat to R.C.P. Singh reveals unease in Bihar alliance

BJP, JD(U) ties may come under strain again during presidential polls in July

NISTULA HEBBAR
NEW DELHI

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's denial of a Rajya Sabha seat to his party leader R.C.P. Singh has not only created a problem for the Union Minister as he will have to resign from his post but also pushed the BJP-Janata Dal(U) alliance in Bihar (where the two parties run a coalition government) into an unknown territory of strain and mistrust.

On the face of it, Mr. Kumar is well within his rights to nominate any suitable candidate to the Rajya Sabha, but denying Mr. Singh, a Union Minister, is much more than a technicality. It reflects the fall in clout of Mr. Singh, who used to head the JD(U) at one time and was the main interlocutor between the JD(U) and the BJP-led Union government.

New order: Nitish Kumar with JD(U) candidate Khiru Mahto, who is filing his Rajya Sabha poll papers on Monday. • PTI

His downfall

According to those in the know, Mr. Singh's downfall began during the 2020 Assembly election in the State, which the JD(U) fought with the BJP but registered numbers lower than its ally. After that, in 2021, Mr. Singh was asked to negotiate with the BJP on the number of berths that the JD(U) wanted in the reshuffle of the Union Council of Ministers.

His party's brief was to stand firm on four berths, but Mr. Singh ended up with one Cabinet berth, which he himself occupied. His *bête noire*, Rajiv Ranjan Singh "Lallan", was then made JD (U) president in his stead and Mr. Singh himself attended conferences organised by Sangh Parivar offshoots and spouted an ambiguous line on a caste census, a big demand of the JD(U). Mr. Kumar, still smarting from the results of the Bihar Assembly election, which left him a junior partner in the State government, tended to blame it on Lok Janshakti Party's Chirag Paswan's vote-cutter act, which he felt was not reined in by the BJP and was, in fact, backed by it. Since November-December last year, he has met with Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav, a development that has raised more than a few eyebrows in Patna and led the BJP to announce that it would be joining the all-party meet on the demand for a caste census being organised by Mr. Kumar, a demand that the BJP has not exactly supported in the past.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Sending a message

Quite clearly, Mr. Kumar is trying to send a message to his alliance partner, the BJP, that he is not happy with the space he is occupying in the alliance. Also, it is clear, especially after the BJP's announcement that it will join the meeting on the demand for a caste census, that they want to save the alliance even at great cost.

The BJP in Bihar, unlike in Uttar Pradesh, suffers from an inability to mobilise support from sections of society such as the Extremely Backward Classes and needs Mr. Kumar to provide it. With the presidential polls looming in July, the next big crisis for the alliance could be on this prestige election. The Rajya Sabha polls have provided a convenient time peg for all this to be revealed.

Naqvi misses Rajya Sabha ticket from U.P.

BJP offered no explanation for exclusion of Union Minister

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The BJP announced its third list of candidates for the current set of Rajya Sabha polls to 57 seats. This list had four names, with Union Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi being a prominent exclusion, raising questions about his future assignment.

Mr. Naqvi retired from his Rajya Sabha seat from Jharkhand and was widely tipped to be nominated again, likely from Uttar Pradesh, from where the BJP is poised to win eight out of the 11 seats, but that has not happened.

Instead, the BJP announced the last two names for Uttar Pradesh seats – Mithilesh Kumar (Vice-Chairman of Uttar Pradesh SC/ST commission) and K. Laxman, the national president of the BJP's Other Backward Classes Morcha.

Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi

There were no explanations offered for Mr. Naqvi's exclusion, the Minority Affairs Minister and the only Muslim representative in the Union Council of Ministers.

Sources in the party remained mum over the matter while speculation is rife on whether he would contest the Rampur Lok Sabha byelection, since he had been the MP for the seat in the past. That is however, only speculation.

The BJP has chosen to filed a third candidate for Karnataka, Lahar Singh Siroya, a close aide of former Karnataka Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa, to try his luck in a seat which will see a contest.

The second seat in Madhya Pradesh has gone to Sumitra Valmiki, a BJP leader from the State and she is expected to win comfortably.

Sidhu Moosewala's political commentary in rap

Controversial Punjabi singer had a loyal fan following

AMARJOT KAUR
CHANDIGARH

In a career spanning roughly five years, Punjabi singer Sidhu Moosewala, 27, belted out over 60 singles and three albums and collaborated with musicians like Raja Kumari and rapper Bohemia.

The controversial hip-hop artiste of Punjabi music, who was shot dead on Sunday evening, was a quintessential, eclectic mix of much that is problematic with the industry, starting from propagating gun culture to a troubling display of toxic male machismo and caste supremacy. Moosewala's recent songs, however, showed a slight shift from his initial (2017) releases such as *Lifestyle* and *So High*.

This year, he contested the Punjab Assembly election and released eight songs under his independent label, Sidhu Moosewala. A stinging, not-so-cryptic commentary on the political churning in Punjab, his month-old song *Scapegoat* is an explicit, evocative rebuttal to all those questioning his defeat in the election.

Moosewala, like many other Punjabi singers, tuned in to the cultural zeitgeist of the farmers' protest in 2020. His song *Punjab – My Motherland* was the second offering from his independent label, the first being *Legend*, which won the track of the year title (2019-20) at the Brit Asia TV Music Awards.

Sidhu Moosewala

Punjab – My Motherland courted controversy for nuanced references to Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale and *takkay naal jinnu dab longay, Kashmir de varga nai*, which loosely translates to "you cannot suppress Punjab, unlike Kashmir". The song triggered speculation over Moosewala's politics and stance on Khalistan.

A year later he independently released *295* in his third and final album *Moosetape*. The song delves into Punjab's politico-religious milieu through compelling lyrics: *Sach bolenga tah milu 295, je karenga tarakki putt hate milugi* (If you speak the truth, you'll be booked under Section 295. If you succeed, you'll get hate). Section 295 of the Indian Penal Code deals with hurting religious feelings.

In an interview with *On Air*, published on YouTube just three days ago, he clarified his stance on Khalistan and his fascination for guns. "I respect Bhindrawale. I had put up his photograph on my Twitter account and people questioned it when I joined Congress," he said.

He had his run-ins with the law, politicians, religious figures and social activists. In 2020, he was booked for the song *Sanju*, accused of promoting gun violence.

The fans Moosewala had gained over time best reflect in the social media tweets and posts mourning his loss after the shooting on Sunday. He had 8.3 million followers on Instagram.

One his most popular songs, *So High*, had 484 million views by the end of the day. Punjabi music producer and movie director Manasvi Aditya Sharma, popularly known as MAS, said Moosewala changed the way the genres of hip-hop and rap were looked at in the Punjabi music industry.

Fans mourning him posted tributes on social media. Grammy-winning R&B artist Drake wrote a simple, "RIP, Moose."

Disquiet in Congress over parachuted candidates

Gandhis' assertive move upsets leaders in Raipur, Jaipur

SANDEEP PHUKAN
NEW DELHI

The decision of the Congress to field "outsiders" from party-ruled Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh for the Rajya Sabha elections may be an act of assertion by the Gandhis but there is a sense of disquiet in these States that go to the Assembly polls in the latter part of 2023.

On Monday, the Congress in Chhattisgarh was forced to defend its choice of nominees after former Chief Minister and BJP leader Raman Singh called it an "insult" to the State that no local leader was found suitable for a Rajya Sabha berth.

"Outsiders are going to the Rajya Sabha, people are left to collect *gobar* (cow dung) and Congressmen from the State are left to eat *Bore Basi* (soaked rice)," Dr. Singh said.

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, who plays on Chhattisgarhi pride as his main political plank, stayed away from congratulating the nominees on social media platforms, though the party spokesperson defended the move.

And in Rajasthan, an Independent MLA, whose vote will be crucial for ensuring the victory of all the candidates, asked for a "rethink".

The nominations expose the 'weak position' of Baghel and Gehlot. • PTI

'Weak position'

Many leaders privately argued that the imposition of candidates, close to the Gandhi siblings, also reflected the weak position of Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and his Chhattisgarh counterpart following a leadership tussle in the States.

The move will also invite a political response from veterans like Ghulam Nabi Azad and Anand Sharma, key G-23 members pushing for internal reforms, who have been snubbed.

Though Congress president Sonia Gandhi is said to have reached out to Mr. Azad on Sunday evening, the fault lines have sharpened. In Rajasthan, where the Congress has decided to contest a third seat, the situation could be tricky as well. The ruling party is comfortably placed to elect two candidates (Randeep Surjewala and Mukul Wasnik), but will need help from Independent MLAs for the third candidate, Pramod Tiwari. And with some party MLAs speaking out against the Ashok Gehlot-led government, analysts do not rule out the possibility of cross-voting.

Some argued that the Rajya Sabha berths should have been used to accommodate members of tribal and minority communities ahead of next year's Assembly elections.

Bharat Singh Kundanpur, Congress MLA from Sangod, shot off a letter to the CM, saying the senior party leaders wanted to "remain alive" through the Rajya Sabha. "These leaders become inaccessible after winning election and show no regard for MLAs and party workers," Mr. Kundanpur said.

(With inputs from Mohammed Iqbal and Shubhomoy Sikdar)

Gyanvapi will be decided through 'courts': Nadda

'Will follow decision in letter & spirit'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

BJP president J.P. Nadda on Monday said the party had always been ready to "take everyone along", and issues such as the dispute over the Gyanvapi mosque were "decided by courts and the Constitution" and the "BJP would follow the decision in letter and spirit".

Mr. Nadda was addressing a press conference at the BJP's headquarters in New Delhi on the occasion of the completion of eight years of Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the helm of the Central government.

J.P. Nadda

Mr. Nadda, along with Union Ministers Dharmendra Pradhan, Smriti Irani and Anurag Thakur, said Mr. Modi had changed the country's culture of politics and ushered in a responsive and pro-active government.

Feeling of alienation

When asked about feelings of alienation among certain communities with regard to the BJP-led government and the dispute over the Gyanvapi mosque and the Mathura Idgah mosque-Krishna Janmabhoomi dispute, he responded that "court and Constitution will decide on it and the BJP will follow it in letter and spirit".

The BJP had passed a resolution on the Ram Janmabhoomi issue during its national executive meeting at Palampur. "After that there has been no resolution," he said in response to questions on whether reclaiming temples at Kashi and Mathura are still on the BJP's agenda."The BJP is ready to take everyone along and it works on the principle of building a strong nation," he said, brushing aside suggestions that a section of society feels alienated under the Modi government. "Our conduct is on the principle of a strong nation, one nation," he said.

Mr. Nadda launched a campaign called '8 Years of *Seva, Sushasan & Garib Kalyan*' [service, good governance, welfare of poor] to reach out to the youth and others through the NaMo App.

BJP, Shiv Sena in a fight for sixth RS seat

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
PUNE

A fierce fight is in the offing for the sixth Rajya Sabha seat in Maharashtra after the Opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) fielded a third candidate, senior leader from Kolhapur and ex-MP Dhananjay Mahadik.

All three BJP leaders filed their respective nominations on Monday.

The BJP's fielding of a third candidate immediately prompted accusations from the ruling Shiv Sena that the former planned to indulge in rampant horse-trading ahead of the June 10 polls. The Sena has staked claim for the sixth seat by fielding a second candidate, its Kolhapur district chief Sanjay Pawar.

With 42 votes needed for each candidate to win, the BJP is expected to get two seats, while the Maha Vikas Aghadi coalition parties – the Shiv Sena, the NCP and the Congress party – are set to get one seat each.

SBI
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Note: All the Wait list of CA Firms empanelled as Concurrent Auditors (Regular Concurrent Audit / RACCs / CCV) will get cancelled with this publication.
Place: Hyderabad Sd/-
Date: 31.05.2022 Dy. General Manager (HR, Admin. & Operations)

Government of Tamil Nadu
ARULMIGU ALAVANDHAR NAYAKAR CHARITY, MAMALLAPURAM
THIRUKAZHUKUNRAM TALUK, CHENGALPET DISTRICT
(Under Hindu Religious And Charitable Endowment Department)

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Cost of tender document	: Rs.17,700/- (including VAT)
Earnest money deposit	: Rs.5,12,000/- (including GST)
Period of contract	: 12 months
Eligibility class of registration	: Class I & above

Period of issue of tender document	From 31.05.2022 to 29.06.2022 up to 5.00 P.M.
Last date and time of submission of tender	30.06.2022 at 2.00 P.M.
Date of Opening of Technical bid	30.06.2022 at 3.00 P.M.
Place of opening of Technical bid	Arm Alavandar Nayakar Arakattalai, Mamallapuram

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(c) Quality Inspector (01), On Contract Basis.
(d) Jr. Technician (01), On Contract Basis

Application should reach UCADA, through offline/e-mail on **ucadadoon@gmail.com** and **financecontrollerucada@gmail.com** till 5:00 PM of 13-06-2022. Interview will be conducted on 14/15 Jun 2022.The relevant details are available on our website www.ucada.in

CEO, UCADA

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
ZILLA PANCHAYATH CHIKMAGALUR
THE ENGINEER RURAL DRINKING WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION DIVISION CHIKMAGALUR.
Phone No.-08262-295795. E-mail:eerdwsckm@gmail.com
TENDER NOTIFICATION NO/EE/RDWS&S/2/E-Tender/2022-23 DATED : 30.5.2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Executive Engineer RDWS & S Division Chikmagalur. Karnataka invites tenders from eligible tenderers, for the below detailed work on DBOT basis. Two Tender document procedure as per rule 28 of the Karnataka transparency in public procurement act, 1999 & rules 2000 shall be followed. The tenders are required to submit all the documents required for the tender through e-procurement mode. through portal https;//proc.karnataka.gov.in. (Manual Submission of tenders or documents is not allowed and such submissions shall be ignored and tender of a tenderer making such submissions shall be rejected as disqualified).

TIME SCHEDULE

1) Downloading of document through e-portal: 30.5.2022 to 01-7-2022 at 17:30 **2)** Last Date & Time for Tender Queries/Clarifications: 09-06-2022 at 17:30 **3)** Pre Bid Meeting at Office of the Chief Engineer, 1st Floor, KHB Complex, Cauvery Bhavan, E Block. KG Road, Bangaluru: 10-06-2022 at 11:30 **4)** Last date for receiving of filled tender documents : 01-07-2022 at 16:00 **5)** Opening of Technical bid : 02-07-2022 at 17:30 **6)** Opening of Financial bid : 06-07-2022 at 11:00

TABLE

SlNo. 1. Name of work: Drinking Water Supply Facilities to 172 Rural Habitations of Tarikere Taluk and Urban Population of Ajjampura Town in Chikkamagalur District, Karnataka through Design, Build, Operate and Transfer (DBOT) mode under Jal Jeevan Mission RWSSD/2022-23/WS/WORK_INDENT40888 **EMD (INR):** 1.28 Crore **Tender Processing Fee:** As per e-procurement portal **Period of completion:** 30 months for execution and 60 months of O&M after successful completion of Scheme

SlNo. 2. Name of work: Providing Drinking Water Supply Facilities to 146 Rural Habitations of Chikkamagalur Taluk and 434 Rural Habitations of Kadur Taluk and 156 Habitations in Part of Tarikere Taluk and the Urban Population of Tarikere Town, Chikkamagalur District through Design, Build, Operate and Transfer (DBOT) mode under Jal Jeevan Mission RWSSD/2022-23/WS/WORK_INDENT40877 **EMD (INR):** 8.02 Crore **Tender Processing Fee:** As per e-procurement portal **Period of completion:** 30 months for execution and 60 months of O&M after successful completion of Scheme

More details can be had from the Office of the under signed and also through our website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in by clicking the List of Tenders which will be link all Department works list.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, RDWS&S. Divn, Chikmagalur.

DIPR/ckm/No.39/mca/22-23/310

Modi releases PM CARES benefits for 'COVID orphans'

A total of 4,439 children identified; no poor person will be left out, says PM

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi attends the release of benefits under the PM Cares for Children scheme through a video conference in New Delhi. • PTI

"*Maa Bharati* is with all of you," Prime Minister Narendra Modi told children orphaned by COVID-19 who received their benefits under the PM CARES scheme on Monday.

"Today, the poorest of the poor is confident that they will receive benefits from government schemes. No poor person should be left out of government schemes, that is our utmost priority," Mr. Modi told the beneficiaries across various districts who joined the programme through teleconference.

A total of 4,439 children have been approved for the scheme. Children who lost both their parents or a primary caregiver between March 11, 2020 and February 28, 2022 are eligible for the scheme. The PM also wrote an emotional personal letter to the beneficiaries. "A century ago, when the entire world was in the grip of a terrible pandemic like today, my mother lost her mother, i.e. my maternal grandmother. My mother was so young that today she doesn't remember her mother's face. She spent an entire life in the absence of her mother, without her affection. Therefore, today, I can very well understand the anguish in your mind, the conflict in your heart," he wrote.

The scheme offers a lumpsum amount of ₹10 lakh when children turn 23 years old as well as a monthly stipend from the age of 18 to 23.

School-going children will receive free education, textbooks and uniforms in the nearest government schools.

Those in private schools may avail themselves of fee reimbursement. Students can also take loans for professional courses and higher education.

The Hindu journalist among two killed in accident in Uttarakhand

Tamil Nadu CM announces ₹5 lakh solatium for Karthik Madhavan's family

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
COIMBATORE

Two persons, including Karthik Madhavan (43), Special Correspondent, *The Hindu*, Coimbatore, were killed and 13 injured in an accident near Kopang on the Uttarkashi-Gangotri highway on Sunday night.

Mr. Madhavan had gone on a holiday to Uttarakhand to undertake a trekking expedition when the vehicle in which he and his fellow trekkers were travelling fell into a ditch.

Ankur Kirola, founder of Nomad Adventures who had organised the trek, said Mr. Madhavan and Alka, a co-trekker from Aurangabad, were killed in the accident.

Mr. Madhavan is survived by his parents, Madhavan and Sujatha, and wife, V. Haripriya, a Chief Sub Editor with *The Hindu* in Coimbatore.

Karthik Madhavan

An alumnus of the Indian Institute of Journalism, Bengaluru, Mr. Madhavan started his career as a trainee reporter with *The New Indian Express*, Chennai in 2003, and later worked in Kancheepuram before reporting for *The Deccan Chronicle*, Chennai for a few months. He had joined *The Hindu* as Staff Reporter in Erode district in November 2005, where he covered a wide range of issues, with a lot of focus on rural reporting.

He reported on agrarian issues and had a keen interest in covering organic farming.

In 2010, he moved to the Coimbatore news bureau and covered higher education, civic issues and politics. He was the first to report on the controversial appointment of an All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam functionary's daughter, who had no track record in urban governance, as Chief Executive Officer of Coimbatore Smart Cities Ltd. in 2017. This eventually led to her resignation.

He always had a passion for biking and trekking. His vacations, of late, were spent trekking in tough hilly regions in the north, the last of which took him away on the fateful night on Sunday.

Expressing deep anguish over his untimely demise, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Monday announced a solatium of ₹5 lakh to his family.

The Leader of the Opposition in the State Assembly Edappadi K. Palaniswami and former Minister S.P. Velumani said they were deeply pained over the death of the journalist. BJP State president K. Annamalai hailed Mr. Madhavan as "a gentleman reporter and a gem of a human being". BJP Mahila Morcha president Vanathi Srinivasan said, "A person who loved Kashi and Ganga had lost his life in a holy land."

The Coimbatore and Chennai Press Clubs condoled his death.

Three UPSC women toppers who won with persistence

All three did not make it in their first attempt of the exam

JAIDEEP DEO BHANJ
VIJAITA SINGH
NEW DELHI

Ankita Agarwal (right), who secured the second rank, and third-rank holder Gamini Singla. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The three women who topped the Civil Service Examination believe that it is a long, challenging journey to crack the examination and that only those aspirants who genuinely have interest in the field should take part in it. All three of them did not make it in their first attempt and attribute their success to self study.

Shruti Sharma (26), who got the first rank, said she wants to work towards improving education and empowerment of women during her career as a civil servant.

Having completed her schooling from Sardar Patel Vidyalaya, Delhi, Ms. Sharma studied history at St. Stephen's College and then took admission in Jawaharlal Nehru University to do a Master's in modern history but was unable to complete her course. It was then that she decided to give the Civil Service Examination a crack and joined Jamia Millia Islamia's Residential Coaching Academy. She is currently pursuing an MA in Sociology from the Delhi School of Economics.

Tough luck

This is her second attempt at the examination. She shared that during her first attempt, due to a technical error, the mode of examination got selected as Hindi instead of English, which was her preferred option. Due to this, she missed out on getting a call for the interview by one mark.

Her family belongs to Bijnore in Uttar Pradesh. Her father is a retired professor and her mother a school teacher.

Speaking about her strategy for the examination, she said that she used to make her own notes after reading the newspaper instead of relying on coaching material. She said that she practised writing by attempting many test series. Her guide to those attempting the examination is to not count the number of hours put in a day for the preparation but to look at the quality of the hours put in.

Ankita Agarwal (25), who secured the second rank, said she was inspired to appear for the coveted examination by her professors at St. Stephen's College, Delhi where she pursued a BA (Honours) in economics. This was her third attempt; in the first she had qualified for the Indian Revenue Services (IRS) and is now undergoing training.

Coming from a business family in Kolkata, Ms. Agarwal is the first to clear the civil services examination in her family.

"It was at St. Stephen's that our professors made us realise that we are born into privilege. There are not many people as fortunate as us. So, after working for a consultancy for a year, I decided to appear for the civil services examinations," Ms. Agarwal said, adding that it was a mix of coaching and self-study for her. She chose political science and international relations as her optional subject.

Third-rank holder Gamini Singla (23) from Sunam in Punjab's Sangrur said this was her second attempt at civil services and in the first attempt in 2019, she could not even clear the preliminary exams. She said she owes her success to her father Alok Singla and teacher Vinod Sharma. Both her parents are doctors.

SC upholds rules for foreign medical students

'Exploitative founders of infrastructure-deficient colleges have led to decline of medical education'

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

The regulations had been a point of debate when Indian students returned from war-hit Ukraine. • K. MURALIKUMAR

The Supreme Court has noted that "overambitious parents" and "exploitative founders of infrastructure-deficient" colleges have led to the decline and commercialisation of medical education and upheld the National Medical Commission's regulations that prescribe certain strictures before foreign medical graduates can practise in India.

The regulations had in the recent past been a point of debate with relation to Indian students who were forced to return due to the Ukraine crisis.

A Bench of Justices Hemant Gupta and V. Ramasubramanian, in a judgment in early May, upheld the regulatory validity of the National Medical Commission (Foreign Medical Graduate Licentiate) Regulations, 2021 and the National Medical Commission (Compulsory Rotating Medical Internship) Regulations, 2021.

The first one requires the foreign medical graduates (FMGs) to undergo a medical course for a minimum of 54 months and an internship for a minimum duration of 12 months in the same foreign medical institution; to register with a professional regulatory body competent to grant licence in the same foreign country and further undergo a supervised 12-month internship in India after applying to the National Medical Commission.

The second lists rigorous conditions for internship in India for the FMGs.

Regulations challenged

Both set of regulations had been challenged in appeals filed in the Supreme Court as violative of the right to health of the public and the right to profession of students.

The appellants had argued that the regulations placed a heavy and arbitrary burden upon students who want to pursue medical education abroad.

But the Bench did not agree with the point of view of the appellants.

The judgment, authored by Justice Ramasubramanian, said that though it was "true that the country needs more doctors, but it needs really qualified doctors and not persons trained by institutions abroad, to test their skills only in their motherland".

The court drew attention to how every time the regulatory authorities took steps to plug the loopholes in the medical education and reform the system and their efforts would come under challenge in courts.

'Auction of gifts to PM Modi nets ₹22.5 crore'

The entire sale proceeds were donated to project Namami Gange, says RTI reply

DAMINI NATH
NEW DELHI

A total of 4,682 mementoes were successfully auctioned. • R.V. MOORTHY

Three auctions of gifts given to Prime Minister Narendra Modi raised ₹22.5 crore in total for the Namami Gange Programme, according to a Right to Information (RTI) reply by the National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), which conducted the auctions in 2019 and 2021.

A total of 5,925 mementoes gifted to Mr. Modi were put up for auction in three phases – January-February 2019, September-October 2019, and September-October 2021. These comprised gifts given to Mr. Modi by Indians and not those received from foreign dignitaries.

The RTI reply on May 20 stated that 4,682 of the mementos were successfully auctioned, while 1,243, or 20.97% of the total, did not get auctioned off. The proportion of items that did not get successfully auctioned was 13% (240 out of 1,805 objects) in the first auction, 22% (612 out of 2,772) in the second, and 29% (391 out of 1,348) in the third, according to the NGMA's reply.

However, the amount raised in the three auctions shot up from ₹3.1 crore and ₹3.6 crore in the first and second rounds, respectively, to ₹15.8 crore in the third round. The third auction, which was conducted online, included the equipment of Tokyo Olympics' medal-winners that had been gifted to Mr. Modi, like the gloves used by boxer Lovlina Borgohain and the javelin used by Neeraj Chopra. The Olympians' autographed equipment had the highest reserve prices of all objects auctioned so far.

"The entire sale proceeds received from the three auctions were donated to the project Namami Gange," the RTI reply stated.

The Hindu had filed the RTI query on November 30, 2021 and then filed an appeal on February 14 this year when the information was not provided in the stipulated 30 days.

Uddhav asks to restore crop loan subsidy

STAFF REPORTER
MUMBAI

The Maharashtra government has asked the Union government to restore the 2% interest subvention scheme for short term crop loans in respect of the District Central Cooperative banks (DCCB).

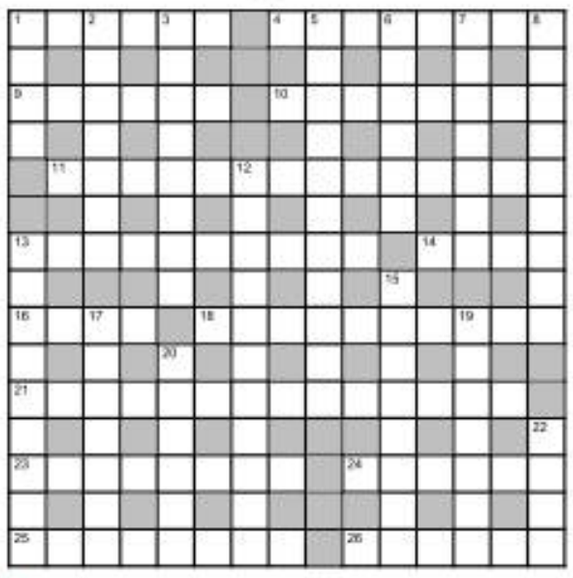
Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray on Monday wrote a letter to Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Tomar saying that discontinuing the scheme would have an adverse impact on financial position of the cooperative banks.

THE CROSSWORD + 13570

(set by Avtaar)

Display keystrokes of genius. Type your answers in our online grids. @ https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn

SCAN TO PLAY



ACROSS

1 John returned home drunk (6)
4 I don't know what the passenger in a hurry might have told airport security (6,2)
9 Translation of "Happy Prince" getting scrapped by master, possibly? (6)
10 Topical article backing a mass movement (8)
11 Lively interiors of Nice inspired poet's first published work (6,8)
13 Revolutionary youth checks quiz with a clue about seminal work on socialism (3,7)
14 Like some proof I safely turned over (2,2)
16 Women, chiefly from old Ottoman sultans' courts (4)
18 Creep hired busy code-breaker (10)
21 Study of heat flow in "Applied Chemistry and Elements of Organic Microanalysis" (14)
23 Ordinary soft drinks these days exhibit a milky iridescence (8)
24 Fellows trespassing close to the milk shed (6)
25 Endless test? (4,4)
26 Charge on beer bottles (6)

DOWN

1 Avtaar's about to visit church for a shoot (4)
2 A Democrat caught between negative and positive responses for executions by drowning (7)
3 English artist joins maverick saint who believes the state should control religion (8)
5 Urge husband to replace pictures at the entrance while transportation to another country (11)
6 Land in vacated ranches for European city residents (6)
7 About to leave game for a short time? At the end, press Alt+F4 and Ctrl-Alt-Del, maybe? (3,4)
8 A poor example of former pro getting wrong cues (6,3)
12 Random remarks of judge over rambling diatribe about court (6,5)
13 Keep away from party by West Indian dealer outside hotel (2,7)
15 Spurious fuel supply? Outrageous! (8)
17 Scratching backside, move rear around with upper limb going across the shoulder (7)
19 Retiring on what I compose for the audience (7)
20 Commencement of indispensable repair jams power loom (6)
22 Entertain female mentees every now and then (4)

SUDOKU

			7	2		8		
5					3	4		
							3	2
	4	9		3				5
	2		6		9		1	
6				8		9	2	
4	6							
		3	1					9
		7		6	2			

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to puzzle 13569

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

4	6	2	5	3	9	8	7	1
7	1	8	2	6	4	9	3	5
3	5	9	1	8	7	2	4	6
6	8	7	9	1	5	3	2	4
9	3	4	7	2	6	1	5	8
1	2	5	8	4	3	7	6	9
8	4	1	6	7	2	5	9	3
5	7	6	3	9	8	4	1	2
2	9	3	4	5	1	6	8	7

FAITH

Padmanabha and Damodara

Lord Narayana is praised through His many names, but two of them stand out in significance, elaborated V.S. Karunakaracharia in a discourse. The two names are Padmanabha and Damodara. Padmanabha indicates His Supremacy. His archa form as Padmanabha, in the Thiruvananthapuram temple, proclaims His superiority. The presence of Brahma in the lotus in His navel shows the Lord's primacy. The reclining Lord's hand rests on the head of Siva, again showing the Lord's Supremacy.

Narayana Bhattadri's verses come to mind here. Bhattadri describes the killing of Vrikasura. Vrikasura did severe penance and obtained a boon from Siva. The moment Vrikasura placed his hand on a person's head, the latter would die. Vrikasura wanted to test the efficacy of this boon on Siva himself. Lord Narayana came to the rescue of Siva. He suggested that Vrikasura put his hand on his own head, which the asura did and died. Bhattadri, after describing this incident, says that the Lord is the refuge of Siva too. So the name Padmnabaha shows us that He is the Supreme One. He is also Damodara, a name acquired by Him in Krishna avatara. To punish the naughty Krishna, Yasoda tied Him to a mortar. Because He was tied by a rope, He became Damodara.

When we worship Him, we need to be aware of both His Paratva and His saulabhya. If not for His saulabhya, we would be scared to approach Him. The Upanishads refer to the Supreme One as Paraavara. Para means superior. Avara means something of little value. Avara indicates that He is simple and accessible to His devotees. In the fourth pasuram of Thiruppavai, Andal uses the name Padmanabha and in the next, she uses the name Damodara, to show us that the two names must be chanted together.

Xi backs new HK chief to maintain 'order'

Chinese President praises John Lee for making contributions to safeguarding national security

ANANTH KRISHNAN
HONG KONG

China's President Xi Jinping on Monday backed Hong Kong's new leader John Lee, a long-time security official, to maintain order and stability in the Chinese Special Administrative Region (SAR) as he prepares to take office on July 1.

Mr. Lee on Monday made his first trip to Beijing following his appointment on May 8 by an election committee, to succeed Carrie Lam as Hong Kong's fifth Chief Executive. He received his official appointment letter from second-ranked leader and Premier Li Keqiang in the Chinese capital on Monday.

Mr. Xi told him in a separate meeting that Hong Kong "achieved a major transition from chaos to order", appearing to refer to the 2019 protests.

As a top security official at the time, Mr. Lee, who served for decades in the Hong Kong police force, played a key role during a turbulent year that saw the protests often descending into clashes between the police and protesters.

Vote of confidence: Hong Kong's new Chief Executive John Lee, left, with Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing on Monday. • AP

The Chinese leader praised Mr. Lee for "making contributions to safeguarding national security and Hong Kong's prosperity and stability in various roles".

He also defended the new electoral system under which Mr. Lee was chosen as "playing a decisive role in implementing the principle of 'patriots administering Hong Kong'".

Following the protests, Beijing passed a new national security law that brought the closure of several pro-democracy opposition groups as well as of several independent media outlets. Beijing also overhauled Hong Kong's electoral system under the principle of "patriots" governing Hong Kong. The share of directly elected representatives in the legislature has also been reduced.

Mr. Xi said the system was "in line with the 'one country, two systems' principle and suited to Hong Kong's realities and needs for development" and would be "upheld for a long time to come".

The pressing challenge that Mr. Lee faces as he takes over on July 1, the 25th anniversary of the former British colony's return to China, is shoring up Hong Kong's status as the region's financial centre. The SAR dealt with a crippling COVID-19 wave at the start of the year but has since returned to some normalcy. The government is facing calls from the business community to ease travel restrictions, such as the mandatory seven-day quarantine for arrivals and flight bans if a certain number of passengers tests positive.

The economy contracted by 6.5% in 2020 and recovered to grow 6.4% in 2021. It also faces a challenge of retaining talent amid a recent exodus of professionals who have either returned home or moved to West Asia or Singapore, mostly because of the travel restrictions resulting in family separations.

Some companies have also expressed concern over the impact of the national security legislation. Two U.K. judges serving on the Court of Final Appeal resigned citing the law and what they saw as the erosion of the judicial independence that made Hong Kong a unique enclave within China under the "one country, two systems" model.

21 bodies recovered from Nepal plane crash site

Search continuing for the remaining person, say officials

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
KATHMANDU

Rescuers on Monday recovered 21 bodies from the wreckage site of the Tara Air plane that crashed in Nepal's mountainous Mustang district on Sunday with 22 people on board, minutes after taking off from the tourist city of Pokhara, officials said.

The turboprop Twin Otter 9N-AET plane went missing on Sunday morning in the mountainous region of Nepal. The Canadian-built plane, flying to the tourist town of Jomsom in central Nepal, was carrying four Indians, two Germans and 13 Nepali passengers, besides a three-member Nepali crew.

Rescuers have recovered 21 bodies from the crash site, the Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal (CAAN) said in a statement. One person was still missing, it added.

It said that 10 bodies were brought to Kathmandu, while 11 were taken to the base camp from where the rescue operation was being coordinated. Sudarshan Bartaula, a spokesperson for Tara Air, said that search and rescue teams were scouring the area for the remaining person.

In pieces: The wreckage of the Twin Otter plane strewn on a mountain in Mustang district of Nepal on Monday. • REUTERS

President Bidya Devi Bhandari and Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba have condoled the death of crew members and passengers in the plane crash.

The government has formed a five-member committee of inquiry headed by senior aeronautical engineer Ratish Chandra Lal Suman to find out the cause of the Tara Air plane crash.

A preliminary investigation revealed that the aircraft had crashed into the mountains after it swerved to the right, instead of turning to the left due to inclement weather, CAAN Director-General Pradeep Adhikari said during a meeting of the International Committee of the Parliament.

Russia's Gazprom cutting Dutch gas supplies

Firm had refused to pay in roubles

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
THE HAGUE

Russia's Gazprom will halt gas supplies to the Netherlands' partly state-owned energy firm GasTerra on Tuesday after it refused to pay in roubles following the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the Dutch company said.

Moscow has asked clients from "unfriendly countries" – including EU member states – to pay for gas in roubles, a way to sidestep Western financial sanctions against its central bank over the February 24 offensive.

GasTerra had "decided not to comply with Gazprom's unilateral payment requirements" as they would breach EU sanctions and create "financial and operational risks", the Dutch firm said in a statement on Monday. "In response to this decision by GasTerra, Gazprom has announced that it will discontinue supply with effect from May 31, 2022," it said.

No long-range rockets for Ukraine: Biden

'U.S. won't send weapons that can strike Russia'

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
WASHINGTON

U.S. President Joe Biden said Monday he would not send rocket systems to Ukraine that could hit targets well inside Russian territory, despite urgent requests from Kyiv for long-range weapons.

"We are not going to send to Ukraine rocket systems that can strike into Russia," Mr. Biden told reporters in Washington.

Joe Biden

Pro-Western Ukraine has received extensive U.S. military assistance since Russia invaded its neighbour in late February, but says it needs long-range rockets equivalent to what Moscow's forces use.

Kyiv has asked the United States for mobile batteries of long-range rockets, the M270 MLRS and the M142 Himars, which can launch multiple rockets at the same time with a range of up to 300 kilometres, eight times or more the distance of artillery in the field.

This could give Ukrainian forces the ability to reach, with great precision, targets far behind Russian lines, though it is unclear if that is their intent.

MLRS system

"If the West really wants Ukraine's victory, maybe it is time to give us long-range MLRS?" Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky's adviser Mykhailo Podoliak tweeted recently.

"It is hard to fight when you are attacked from a 70 km distance and have nothing to fight back with."

The United States earlier in May announced another $40 billion assistance package amid speculation it included such weapons.

Since failing to capture Kyiv in the war's early stages, Russia's Army has narrowed its focus, hammering cities with relentless artillery and missile barrages as it seeks to consolidate its control.

French journalist killed in Russian bombardment

He was on a bus carrying civilians

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
PARIS

A French journalist was killed on Monday during a Russian bombardment that struck a vehicle evacuating civilians from eastern Ukraine, French and Ukrainian officials said.

"Frederic Leclerc-Imhoff was in Ukraine to show the reality of war," French President Emmanuel Macron wrote on Twitter. "Onboard a humanitarian bus with civilians forced to flee to escape Russian bombings, he was mortally wounded."

Leclerc-Imhoff was working for the BFM television news channel, which said he was 32 years old and on his second Ukraine reporting trip since the war began on February 24. He was near Severodonetsk, a city in Ukraine's east that has been pounded by advancing Russian troops in recent weeks, the French and Ukrainian foreign Ministries said in separate statements.

Leftist versus businessman in Colombia

ASSOCIATED PRESS
BOGOTA

Colombian voters opted for a dramatic change in presidential politics, choosing a leftist former rebel and an outsider populist businessman to advance to a run-off election in June amid hopes a new face can pull them out of the economic damage from the pandemic.

Leftist Sen. Gustavo Petro led the field of six candidates on Sunday with just over 40% of the votes, while real estate tycoon Rodolfo Hernández, who has no close ties to any political parties, finished second with more than 28%, election officials reported.

Both are far different from the conservatives and moderates that have long governed the South American country.

Mr. Petro, the front-runner throughout the campaign, could become Colombia's first head of state from the left, which for years has been marginalised for its perceived association with the nation's armed conflict.

10 Pacific island nations reject China security pact

They shouldn't be too anxious about Beijing's aims: Wang

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
SUVA, FIJI

Ten Pacific island nations rebuffed China's push for a wide-ranging regional security pact on Monday, amid worries the proposal was designed to pull them into Beijing's orbit.

Talks in Fiji between Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi and leaders from the small island nations failed to reach an agreement, in a high-profile diplomatic setback for Beijing.

China is offering to radically ramp up its activities in the South Pacific, directly challenging the influence of the United States and its allies in the strategically vital region. The proposed pact would see Beijing train Pacific island police, become involved in cybersecurity, expand political ties, conduct sensitive marine mapping and gain greater access to natural resources on land and in the water.

As an enticement, Beijing is offering millions of dollars

Wang Yi

in financial aid, the prospect of a potentially lucrative China-Pacific islands free trade agreement and access to China's vast market.

Behind the scenes, Pacific leaders have voiced deep misgivings about the offer.

In a recent letter to fellow leaders, David Panuelo, the President of the Federated States of Micronesia, warned the offer was "disingenuous" and would "ensure Chinese influence in government" and "economic control" of key industries. A more soft-spoken rebuke came after the talks, when leaders said they could not agree to Beijing's proposed "Common Development Vision" due to a lack of regional consensus.

"As always, we put consensus first," co-host and Fijian Prime Minister Frank Bainimarama said, indicating that broad accord would be needed before inking any "new regional agreements".

Papua New Guinea, Samoa and the Federated States of Micronesia were said to be among those concerned about the proposals, along with Taiwan-recognising Palau, which was not invited.

Speaking from Suva, Mr. Wang made the face-saving announcement that the 10 countries had agreed to memorandums of understanding on China's "Belt and Road" initiative. The two sides will "continue to have ongoing and in-depth discussions and consultations to shape more consensus on cooperation", he said, urging those worried by Beijing's intentions not to be "too anxious and don't be too nervous".

Monkeypox won't turn into pandemic: WHO

'But there are still many unknowns about the virus'

ASSOCIATED PRESS
LONDON

The World Health Organization's top monkeypox expert said she doesn't expect the hundreds of cases reported to date to turn into another pandemic, but acknowledged there are still many unknowns about the disease, including how exactly it's spreading and whether the suspension of mass smallpox immunisation decades ago may somehow be speeding its transmission.

Cases have been found in 23 countries for the first time.

In a public session on Monday, WHO's Rosamund Lewis said it was critical to emphasise that the vast majority of cases being seen in dozens of countries globally are in gay, bisexual or men who have sex with men, so that scientists can further study the issue and for populations at risk to take precautions. "It's very important to describe this because it appears to be an increase in a mode of transmission that may have been under-recognised in the past," Dr. Lewis, WHO's technical lead on monkeypox, said.

Still, she warned that anyone is at potential risk of the disease, regardless of their sexual orientation. Other experts have pointed out that it may be accidental that the disease was first picked up in gay and bisexual men, saying it could quickly spill over into other groups if it is not curbed. To date, the WHO said 23 countries that haven't previously had monkeypox have reported more than 250 cases.

Dr. Lewis said it's unknown whether monkeypox is being transmitted by sex or just the close contact between people engaging in sexual activity and described the threat to the general population as "low".

"It is not yet known whether this virus is exploiting a new mode of transmission, but what is clear is that it continues to exploit its well-known mode of transmission, which is close, physical contact," she said.

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MARKET WATCH

	30-05-2022	% CHANGE
Sensex	55,926	1.90%
US Dollar	77.54	0.05
Gold	51,052	0.22
Brent oil	120.8	–

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	734.70	31.60
Apollo Hosp	3891.95	30.20
Asian Paints	2864.00	9.15
Axis Bank	693.65	5.35
Bajaj Auto	3856.70	23.65
Bajaj Finserv	12924.05	165.65
Bajaj Finance	6111.20	117.70
Bharti Airtel	699.05	14.65
BPCL	329.15	6.80
Britannia Ind	3576.25	18.65
Cipla	986.80	20.45
Coal India	187.20	5.35
Divis Lab	3566.50	51.80
Dr Reddys Lab	4370.30	-20.20
Eicher Motors	2758.45	16.35
Grasim Ind	1441.00	44.30
HCL Tech	1039.90	36.00
HDFC	2367.25	36.85
HDFC Bank	1401.55	9.50
HDFC Life	608.90	10.80
Hero MotoCorp	2770.55	50.75
Hindalco	416.75	7.60
Hind Unilever	2348.95	18.35
ICICI Bank	748.50	8.70
Indusind Bank	936.20	10.80
Infosys	1526.80	65.45
ITC	269.05	-0.15
JSW Steel	538.85	-9.55
Kotak Bank	1903.20	-43.00
L&T	1660.85	60.55
M&M	998.35	45.50
Maruti Suzuki	8013.90	70.95
Nestle India Ltd.	17706.90	65.85
NTPC	150.90	0.45
ONGC	144.05	0.25
PowerGrid Corp	228.25	3.55
Reliance Ind	2664.80	89.70
SBI Life	1148.40	27.30
State Bank	474.60	5.65
Shree Cement	22460.40	533.35
Sun Pharma	888.30	-15.60
Tata Consumer Products Ltd.	750.15	24.70
Tata Motors	442.40	12.80
Tata Steel	1047.45	3.95
TCS	3375.25	113.95
Tech Mahindra	1164.00	40.75
Titan	2255.90	106.70
UltraTech Cement	6102.65	154.65
UPL	782.55	25.95
Wipro	476.25	9.30

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on May 30

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	77.34	77.66
Euro	83.31	83.68
British Pound	97.81	98.22
Japanese Yen (100)	60.72	60.97
Chinese Yuan	11.61	11.66
Swiss Franc	80.60	80.94
Singapore Dollar	56.58	56.82
Canadian Dollar	60.93	61.20
Malaysian Ringitt	17.70	17.80
Australian Dollar	55.55	55.79

Source: Indian Bank

IN BRIEF

GAIL to invest ₹6,000 cr. in renewables in 3 years

MUMBAI

State-owned GAIL India will invest ₹6,000 crore in the next three years in renewables, a top official said. The investment can go up by an additional ₹20,000 crore by 2030, GAIL India CMD director Manoj Jain said. He said it is looking at almost 3 GW of renewables capacity by 2030, which will include one GW to start with in the next three years. PTI

Hero Electric signs EV financing pact with Chola

CHENNAI

Hero Electric has entered into a partnership with Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Ltd. (Chola), the financial services arm of the Murugappa Group, to offer financing for electric two-wheelers. "This partnership will also give us a strong foothold in the EV financing space with our 1,145 branches spread across urban, semi-urban and rural markets, said Ravindra Kundu, executive director, Chola.

'Number of fake ₹500 notes detected doubles'

MUMBAI

The number of fake currency note of ₹500 denomination detected by the banking system more than doubled to 79,669 pieces in the fiscal 2021-22 over the previous year, according to the RBI's annual report. The number of counterfeit notes of ₹2,000 denomination detected in the system was 13,604 pieces during 2021-22, up 54.6% from the preceding financial year, the RBI said. PTI

Sundaram Home Finance raises deposit rates

CHENNAI

Sundaram Home Finance (SHF) has revised upwards the interest rates on deposits effective June 1. In addition to one, two and three-year deposits, the company will also accept deposits for four and five-year periods, it said. The rate on two-year deposits for individuals other than senior citizens has been increased by 25 basis points to 5.9% per annum (5.65%). On three to five-year deposits, the company will offer 6.05% (5.8%).

Govt. set to advance bank privatisation

Top FinMin officials say geared to do more to douse inflation, bolster economic stability and growth

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The government is in the process of taking 'advanced action' to take forward the privatisation of public sector banks and is geared up to take further steps to rein in inflation as well as maintain economic stability and growth, top finance ministry officials asserted on Monday.

"As far as the banking privatisation is concerned... for making the enabling provisions, there is advanced action, which has been taken," said Department of Financial Services Secretary Sanjay Malhotra.

Department of Investment and Public Asset Management Secretary Tuhin Kanta Pandey said transactions announced by the government would be carried forward. The Centre had announced privatisation of two public sector banks in the Budget for 2021-22 but is yet to amend the relevant banking laws to enable the sale of its majority stake in them.

"For maintaining economic stability and growth, the government has been taking all measures not just from the fiscal side but even logistical level issues," said Economic Affairs Secretary Ajay Seth."Whatever new challenges may come up in the future, we are at it and the government is taking action," he added.

Key roles: Finance Secretary T.V. Somanathan speaks on the Finance, Corporate Affairs Ministries' roles. •KAMAL NARANG

Paradeep sale nets ₹471.5 cr.

The Centre has received ₹471.5 crore as disinvestment proceeds following the IPO of erstwhile public sector fertiliser maker Paradeep Phosphates, privatised in 2002. The government sold its residual stake of 19.55% in the firm via the IPO.

"We have challenges obviously, some short term, some long term, but the strength that India has shown over 75 years, I am confident that we can overcome the current challenges and those to come, so as to reach the golden period of our economic journey," Mr. Seth said, conceding that strong global headwinds would impact India's growth.

'Have the strength'

"I reiterate that today, we have the strength to brace those headwinds but yes when they are there, the pace of growth may have an impact.. This is a global phenomena that happens, but even despite those, India is poised to be fastest-growing economy among all large countries," he emphasised.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to inaugurate on June 6 the Finance and Corporate Affairs Ministries' iconic week celebrations, under the aegis of the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', Finance Secretary T.V. Somanathan said at a press conference.

Sensex gains 1.9% aided by auto, tech stocks

'Monsoon onset helps lift sentiment'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Benchmark stock indices on Monday gained 1.9% following a rebound in buying, primarily in auto and IT stocks.

The S&P BSE Sensex surged 1,041 points, or 1.9%, to 55,925.74. Stocks that gained the most are Titan (4.94%), M&M (4.69%), Infosys (3.77%), Tech Mahindra (3.59%), HCL Tech (3.57%) and TCS (3.47%). The NSE Nifty50 index too gained 1.89% to 16,661.40.

"Markets ended the 3-week long consolidation phase... tracking firm global cues," said Ajit Mishra, VP, Research, Religare Broking.

"Almost all sectoral indices contributed to the move. The broader markets too witnessed healthy traction wherein midcap and smallcap ended higher by more than 2% each," Mr. Mishra added.

"Markets have regained some strength citing the less hawkish tone of the U.S. Fed in the recently released meeting minutes. On the domestic front, the early onset of monsoon has further lifted sentiments... upcoming GDP numbers, PMI data and auto sales will be in focus for cues," he said.

May inflation may slow to 7%: SBI report

'Recent steps to tame prices may take few months to fully impact, deficit on track'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

India's retail inflation may ease to 7% in May, from the almost eight-year high of 7.8% in April, said State Bank of India economists, who reckoned that the Centre could still meet its fiscal deficit target of 6.4% of GDP for this year thanks to conservative revenue estimates in the Union Budget.

While the full impact of the recent measures to curb runaway inflation, including the excise duty cuts on fuel products and import-export duty tweaks for steel and plastic, would be visible only in later months, the economists said in a research report that the steps could decelerate the pace of price gains by about 35 to 40 basis points. One hundred basis points are equal to one percentage point.

"Under current circumstances, consumer price inflation is expected to average at 6.5%-6.7% in 2022-23," SBI group chief economic adviser Soumya Kanti Ghosh noted in the report. "Additionally, these measures are likely to have fiscal implication for the Centre as well [but] considering the conservative budgetary estimates, the net fiscal implication could be around ₹66,000 crore."

Within grasp: 'Fiscal deficit of 6.4% looks likely as estimates for revenue collections are conservative'. •SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

'Expanded subsidy bill'

The government has increased its fertilizer subsidy bill by ₹1.1 lakh crore and announced a subsidy payment of ₹200 per gas cylinder for up to 12 cylinders to about 9 crore beneficiaries of the PM Ujjwala Yojna. Customs duties on large quantities of edible oil imports have also been waived.

"These measures in total will have fiscal implication of around ₹2.5 lakh crore. However, the revenue collection for 2022-23 is expected to be higher than estimates in the Budget as they were on the conservative side," the economists concluded.

Tata Motors arm inks pact for takeover of Ford plant

Plans 3 lakh unit capacity at Sanand

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Tata Motors' subsidiary Tata Passenger Electric Mobility Ltd. (TPEML) and Ford India Private Ltd. (FIPL) have entered into an MoU with the Gujarat government for potential acquisition of FIPL's Sanand vehicle manufacturing facility.

The acquisition includes land and buildings, vehicle manufacturing plant, machinery and equipment, and transfer of all eligible employees of FIPL Sanand's vehicle manufacturing operations, subject to signing of definitive agreements and receipt of relevant approvals, the company said.

With the proposed investments, TPEML would establish an installed capacity of 3 lakh units per annum, which would be scalable to more than 4 lakh units.

"This unit is adjacent to the existing manufacturing facility of Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles Ltd. at Sanand, which should help in a smooth transition," Tata Motors said in a statement.

"This MoU is intended to catalyse a win-win for all the stakeholders and ensure a smooth transition," said Rajiv Kumar Gupta, Additional Chief Secretary, Gujarat.

"This effort reinforces Gujarat's image as a progressive, investment-friendly State and its resolve to further strengthen the State as a leading automotive hub in the country," he added.

IRDAI to adopt tech to serve hinterland

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Insurance regulator IRDAI is ready to adopt technological innovations to protect the interest of policyholders and to provide services to people living in the hinterland, said chairman Debasish Panda.

The insurance sector was at an inflection point and the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) was ready to travel together with innovators and the insurtech ecosystem in the country, Mr. Panda said at a press conference on Monday. IRDAI had already initiated steps like revamping the regulatory sandbox to make it vibrant on a continuous basis, he said further.

LIC Q4 profit slides 17% to ₹2,409 crore

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Insurance behemoth LIC on Monday posted a 17% decline in consolidated net profit to ₹2,409 crore for the fourth quarter ended March.

This is the first quarterly result announced by LIC after being listed on the bourses earlier this month.

Total income increased to ₹2,12,230.41 crore from ₹1,90,098 crore a year earlier, LIC said in a regulatory filing.

LIC's income from first-year premium rose to ₹14,663.19 crore as against ₹11,053.34 crore.

For FY22, LIC reported a 38% rise in profit to ₹4,124.70 crore.

The board of LIC recommended a dividend of ₹1.50 per equity share for the year ended March 31.

No woman CFO in Nifty 50: IFMR-D&B study

Under 5% of Nifty 250 CFOs are women

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

In financial year 2022, no woman occupied the position of chief financial officer (CFO) among companies comprising stock index Nifty 50. Also, women held the position in less than 5% of Nifty 250 firms, according to a study by the IFMR Graduate School of Business at Krea University and Dun & Bradstreet (D&B).

The study quoted S. Mahalingam, former CFO of Tata Consultancy Services, as saying, " We usually do not see women in many top positions, and this is a major problem. It is not that women lag in finance. Companies have not done a great job in creating women CFOs but it should happen in the future with greater emphasis on diversity and inclusion." Titled "The Future CFO: Changing Roles, Changing Goals", the study is based on quantitative and qualitative insights from dozens of Indian CFOs and outlines the changing role of CFOs, key capabilities and competencies needed for CFOs, and their shifting priorities and newer responsibilities.

To capture changes and mine insights, D&B analysed the Nifty 250 companies for FY16 and FY22

To capture demographic changes and mine insights, D&B analysed the Nifty 250 companies – Nifty 50, Nifty Next 50 and Nifty Midcap 150 index companies – for FY16 and FY22.

Drugmakers seek clarity on Nigerian export issues

NAFDAC had flagged 'unethical' acts

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council (Pharmexcil) of India has convened a meeting with Nigeria's National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) after the regulator in India's fifth largest drug export market accused Indian drugmakers and pharmaceuticals exporters of indulging in unethical and unprofessional practices.

"We proposed a meeting... they have agreed," Director General Ravi Uday Bhaskar said. Stakeholders in India's pharma industry, especially exporters, are expected to participate in the meeting with NAFDAC officials, scheduled for May 31.

NAFDAC had earlier this month warned Indian drug suppliers of stringent action after charging them of unethical and unprofessional practices in connivance with Nigerian importers.

Pharmexcil had, in turn, alerted members about the communication from NAFDAC, which had flagged issues with regard to product package design.

Pharmaceutical exports to Nigeria rose to $588.59 million in FY22, from $573.17 million in FY21.

Sun Pharma logs Q4 loss of ₹2,277 crore

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd. reported net loss of ₹2,277.2 crore for the fourth quarter ended March 31 compared with a net profit of ₹894 crore in the year-earlier period.

This was on account of an exceptional item of ₹3,935.7 crore towards settlement payments and provisions related to Taro Pharmaceuticals and Ranbaxy. Consolidated sales during the quarter grew 11% to ₹9,386.1 crore. For the full year, Sun reported a 13% rise in net profit to ₹3,272.7 crore.

Consolidated sales from operations grew 15.6% to ₹38,426.4 crore.

The board has proposed a final dividend of ₹3 per share for FY22.

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Hardik Pandya delivers on the big stage, proves doubters wrong

By assembling a squad of experienced performers, Titans' team management aces the campaign; Warne's legacy will be celebrated regardless of Royals' loss

IPL 2022

ASHWIN ACHAL
AHMEDABAD

Hardik Pandya corrected a dip in his stock price with a memorable IPL 2022 campaign. He delivered the title to Gujarat Titans as a first-time captain, performed with bat and ball, and overcame all injury doubts.

The exclamation point came in the final here against Rajasthan Royals on Sunday when an all-round show (3/17 and 34) earned him the 'Player-of-the-Match' award.

Shrewd captaincy

His shrewd captaincy through the tournament was particularly impressive, given that this is Hardik's first attempt at a major leadership role. Hardik's appointment as skipper was a surprise in itself, as the Gujarat outfit – making its maiden appearance in the IPL – was expected to choose a more experienced hand for the job.

There were also questions surrounding his fitness, which had forced him to give up bowling duties in the last couple of years. Hardik had the answers in the summit clash – bowling at a good pace, and keeping a tight line outside off to prise out the key wickets of Sanju Samson, Jos Buttler and Shimron Hetmyer.

In assembling a squad filled with experienced performers like Wriddhiman Saha, Matthew Wade, Rashid Khan and Mohammed Shami, the Gujarat team management aced this jigsaw puzzle. The franchise was also rewarded for backing South African batter David Miller who came into his own after struggling in his last five seasons.

For Royals, a triumph was viewed as the ideal tribute to the late Shane Warne who led the team to the title in the inaugural 2008 edition. Warne's legacy, however, will be celebrated regardless of this loss.

Royals opener Jos Buttler had a dream run, finishing as the highest run-scorer of the tournament. With 863 runs, Buttler became the second-highest run-scorer in an IPL season, behind Virat Kohli (973 runs in 2016). Rajasthan leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal picked up just one wicket in three playoff outings, but the tournament's highest wicket-taker played his part in the team's run.

Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB), under a new captain in Faf du Plessis, exceeded expectations by entering Qualifier 2. The dream of laying their hands on a maiden trophy, however, remains unfulfilled.

By qualifying for the playoff round, Lucknow Super Giants – the second new team in the competition – had plenty of positives to take from this debut.

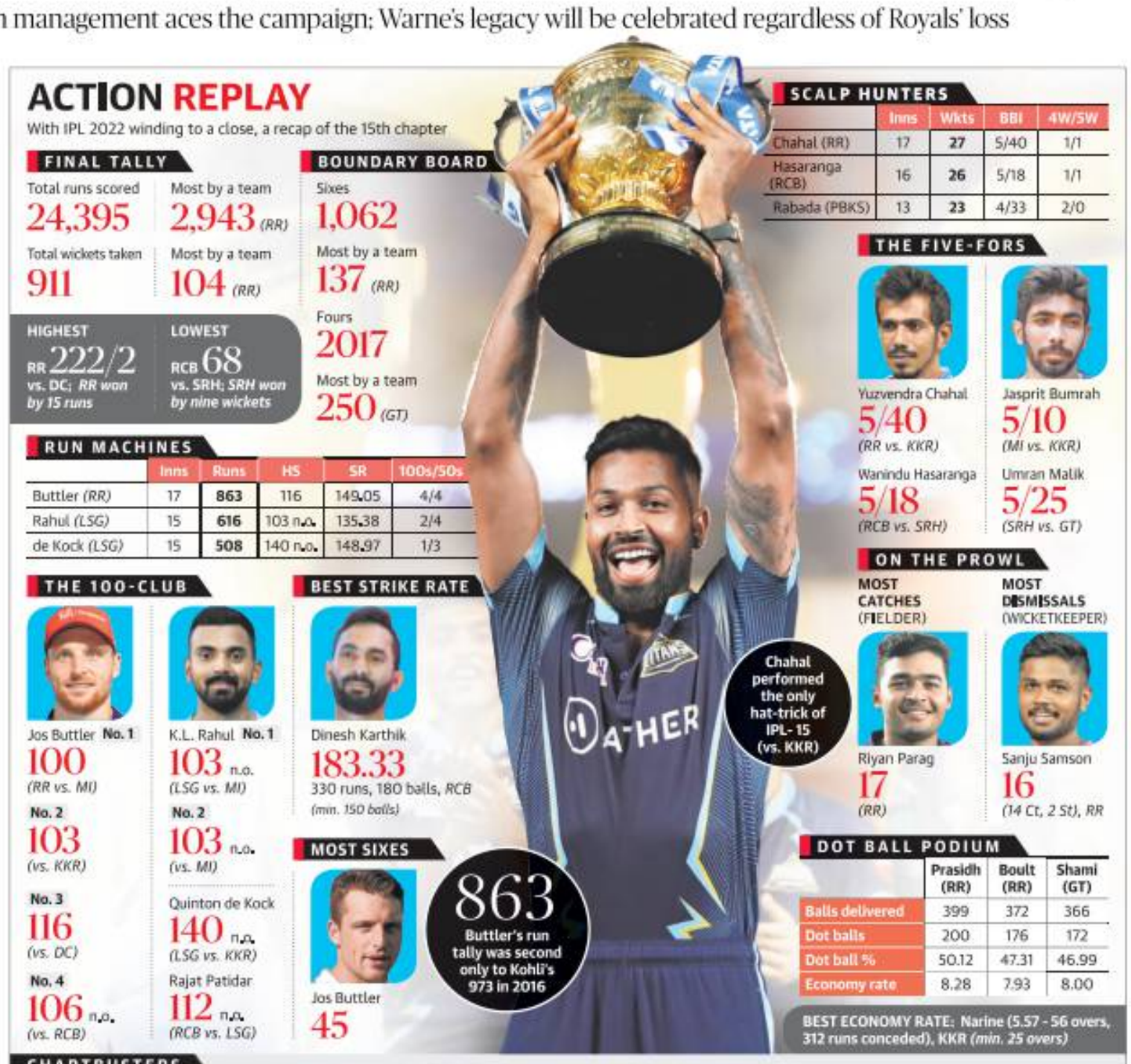
It was a season to forget for IPL's most decorated sides, Mumbai Indians and Chennai Super Kings. India captain Rohit Sharma and West Indian Kieron Pollard were below par, which contributed heavily to Mumbai finishing at the bottom of the table. Chennai, affected by M.S. Dhoni reclaiming the captaincy from Ravindra Jadeja, did not do much better.

The tournament has always given the ideal platform for new stars to emerge. This time around, it was uncapped pacers Umran Malik and Arshdeep Singh who shone bright and earned their maiden India call-ups.

A terrific unbeaten 112 in the Eliminator against Lucknow Super Giants gave RCB's Rajat Patidar pride of place as the only uncapped player to hit a century this year. Middle-order batter Tilak Varma provided the silver lining to a disappointing Mumbai show.

Left-arm fast bowlers Mohsin Khan (Lucknow Super Giants), Mukesh Choudhary (Chennai Super Kings) and Yash Dayal (Gujarat Titans) did their reputations a world of good.

The festive atmosphere created by the 1,00,000-odd spectators at the Narendra Modi Stadium for the final ensured a grand finish.


ACTION REPLAY
With IPL 2022 winding to a close, a recap of the 15th chapter
FINAL TALLY
Total runs scored 24,395
Most by a team 2,943 (RR)
Total wickets taken 911
Most by a team 104 (RR)
HIGHEST RR 222/2 vs. DC; RR won by 15 runs
LOWEST RCB 68 vs. SRH; SRH won by nine wickets
BOUNDARY BOARD
Sixes 1,062
Most by a team 137 (RR)
Fours 2017
Most by a team 250 (GT)
RUN MACHINES
Inns Runs HS SR 100s/50s
Buttler (RR) 17 863 116 149.05 4/4
Rahul (LSG) 15 616 103 n.o. 135.38 2/4
de Kock (LSG) 15 508 140 n.o. 148.97 1/3
THE 100-CLUB
Jos Buttler No. 1 100 (RR vs. MI)
No. 2 103 (vs. KKR)
No. 3 116 (vs. DC)
No. 4 106 n.o. (vs. RCB)
K.L. Rahul No. 1 103 n.o. (LSG vs. MI)
No. 2 103 n.o. (vs. MI)
Quinton de Kock 140 n.o. (LSG vs. KKR)
Rajat Patidar 112 n.o. (RCB vs. LSG)
BEST STRIKE RATE
Dinesh Karthik 183.33
330 runs, 180 balls, RCB (min. 150 balls)
MOST SIXES
Jos Buttler 45
863 Buttler's run tally was second only to Kohli's 973 in 2016
Chahal performed the only hat-trick of IPL-15 (vs. KKR)
SCALP HUNTERS
Inns Wkts BBI 4W/5W
Chahal (RR) 17 27 5/40 1/1
Hasaranga (RCB) 16 26 5/18 1/1
Rabada (PBKS) 13 23 4/33 2/0
THE FIVE-FORS
Yuzvendra Chahal 5/40 (RR vs. KKR)
Jasprit Bumrah 5/10 (MI vs. KKR)
Wanindu Hasaranga 5/18 (RCB vs. SRH)
Umran Malik 5/25 (SRH vs. GT)
ON THE PROWL
MOST CATCHES (FIELDER)
Riyan Parag 17 (RR)
MOST DISMISSALS (WICKETKEEPER)
Sanju Samson 16 (14 Ct, 2 St), RR
DOT BALL PODIUM
Prasidh (RR) Boult (RR) Shami (GT)
Balls delivered 399 372 366
Dot balls 200 176 172
Dot ball % 50.12 47.31 46.99
Economy rate 8.28 7.93 8.00
BEST ECONOMY RATE: Narine (5.57 - 56 overs, 312 runs conceded), KKR (min. 25 overs)
CHARTBUSTERS
2 Royals (2008) and Titans (2022) are the only teams to be crowned champion in their debut season
4 Buttler equalled Kohli's 2016 record of four centuries in a single season
5 Hardik Pandya's IPL trophy collection (four with MI)
8 IPL 2022 witnessed the most centuries in a season, overtaking the seven in 2016
27 Chahal's wicket-tally is the best by a spinner in an edition
1,062 The highest number of sixes in an edition
SOURCE: ESPNCRICINFO
COMPILED BY R. NARAYANAN AND G. PRASAD | GRAPHIC: A. GANESHAN

₹1.25 crore BCCI reward for curators, groundsmen

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI

Calling them 'unsung heroes', the BCCI on Monday announced a prize money of ₹1.25 crore for the curators and groundsmen, who worked during the just-concluded IPL.

"I'm pleased to announce a prize money of ₹1.25 crore for the men who gave us the best games in Tata IPL 2022. The unsung heroes – our curators and groundsmen across six IPL venues this season," Shah tweeted.

For the first time, the BCCI is giving huge incentives to groundsmen.

Victory parade: Titans enjoy a roadshow held in Ahmedabad to celebrate their IPL triumph. • VIJAY SONEJI

My goal is to win the WC for India: Hardik

ASHWIN ACHAL
AHMEDABAD

After leading Gujarat Titans on a victorious IPL title run, Hardik Pandya has set his sights on the ICC T20 World Cup, which will be held in Australia later this year.

"My goal is to win the World Cup for India. I will give everything I have to make it happen. Playing for India is always a dream come true, no matter how many games I've played.

"It is always a pleasure to represent the country. The love and support I have got is from the India team point of view," Hardik said after Titans defeated Rajasthan Royals in the IPL final on Sunday.

On his match-winning all-round show in the summit clash, Hardik said, "With around 1,10,000 spectators in the stadium, something special was bound to happen. Today's performance was the fruit of many months of labour."

To be a good captain, you must practice what you preach, said Hardik. "I'm someone who leads from the front. If I want the team to function in a certain way, it makes most sense if I do it first," he said.

The Baroda cricketer believes that a strong bowling attack holds the key to T20 success.

"People say that T20 is a batter's game, but more often than not, it is the bowlers who win games. If the batters can't make a par score, a gun bowling attack – which we possessed – can pull things back. Ashu bhai (head coach Ashish Nehra) and I were always keen on creating a strong bowling unit," he said.

Rajasthan Royals Director of Cricket, Kumar Sangakkara, explained that the team required a better show from the support cast.

"We have a lot of improving to do in all areas. If you take our batting, we had huge contributions from Jos Buttler, contributions from Sanju (Samson)... Shimron (Hetmyer) played well in the early stages of the tournament. Riyan (Parag) and Devdutt (Padikkal) did well in patches, but overall, we need a little bit more from the support players," Sangakkara said.

On R. Ashwin, Sangakkara said, "Ashwin is a legend in terms of what he has achieved, but even for him, there's a lot of room for improvement, especially with his off-spin and to bowl more of it."

Selection likely to be on predictable lines

CWG TT

RAKESH RAO
NEW DELHI

Following the weeklong National training camp at Bengaluru's Padukone-Dravid Centre for Sports Excellence on Monday, all eyes are on the panel of table tennis selectors to announce the team for the Commonwealth Games at Birmingham in July-August.

The four selectors S. Ramaswamy, Rajat Kathuria, N.R. Indu and Archana Vishwanath arrived on the penultimate day of the camp indicating they did not deem it necessary to watch these players closely in action before making up their minds, ahead of the likely announcement on Tuesday.

To select a four-man team, Sharath Kamal (National rank 1), G. Sathiyan (8), Sanil Shetty (2), Harmeet Desai (3), Manush Shah (4), Manav Thakkar (5) Anirban Ghosh (6) and Fidel R. Snehit (11) were called for the camp.

Similarly, Manika Batra (33), Archana Kamath (37), Sreeja Akula (1), Reeth Rishya (2), Diya Chitale (3), Swastika Ghosh (4), Ayhika Mukherjee (8) and Sutirtha Mukherjee (9) were invited to pick four women.

Going by the recent intent of the selectors, Sharath, Sathiyan, Harmeet, Sanil, Manika, Archana, Sreeja and Reeth could make the cut. Among these, only Sanil could face a remote threat from fellow left-hander Manush.

As in 2018, India could field Sharath, Sathiyan and Harmeet in singles and the combinations of Sharath-Sathiyan and Harmeet-Sanil. The only change could come if Manush replaces Sanil.

Unlike the team of 2018, it could well be Manika, Sreeja and Reeth in singles. In doubles, Manika-Archana and Sreeja-Reeth appear obvious choices.

In mixed doubles, too, World No. 6 Sathiyan-Archana and Sharath-Sreeja and a makeshift pair will turn up.

Rune outslugs Tsitsipas, reaches last eight

Swiatek survives a Zheng scare; Bopanna-Middelkoop duo moves into semifinals

REUTERS
PARIS

Teenage sensation Holger Rune outmuscled World No. 4 and last year's French Open finalist Stefanos Tsitsipas 7-5, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 on Monday to move into the quarterfinals with his biggest Grand Slam win to date.

The Dane, who has improved more than 350 places in the rankings in the past 15 months, joins fellow 19-year-old Carlos Alcaraz in the last eight, the first time two teenagers have made that stage at a Grand Slam since 1994.

"It's an unbelievable feeling. I was so nervous in the end," said a beaming Rune, playing in his first French Open. "I was very nervous. I told myself to keep at it and play my plan. I mean it is so great to still be here."

Eighth seed Casper Ruud reached his maiden Grand Slam quarterfinal when he downed Hubert Hurkacz 6-2, 6-3, 3-6, 6-3.

"It feels great, it was one of my goals this year. I feel more experienced playing best of five sets," said Ruud, the first Norwegian to reach the last eight at Roland Garros.

World No. 1 Iga Swiatek survived a scare against Chinese teenager Zheng Qinwen, dropping the first set before going on to make the quarterfinals with a 32nd successive win. Swiatek prevailed 6-7(5), 6-0, 6-2 to equal the third best winning streak this century set by Justine Henin 14 years ago.

Rohan Bopanna and his Dutch partner Matwe Middelkoop overcame the Finland-Great Britain duo of Harri Heliovaara and Lloyd Glasspool 4-6, 6-4, 7-6(3) to reach the men's doubles semifinals.

Huge! Rune outmuscled Tsitsipas to register his biggest Grand Slam win to date. • AFP

Day in numbers

- Rune is the first Danish man to enter the quarterfinals of a Grand Slam
- The match between Fernandez and Trevisan will be the first quarterfinal at Roland-Garros between two left-handed players since Navratilova and Hanika in 1981
- Ruud becomes the first Norwegian man to reach the last eight at the French Open

Tuesday's picks

QUARTERFINALS

MEN
3-Zverev vs. 6-Alcaraz
1-Djokovic vs. 5-Nadal (N)

WOMEN
17-Fernandez vs. Trevisan
18-Gauff vs. Stephens (N) - Night session

THE RESULTS

Fourth round: Men: 8-Ruud (Nor) bt 12-Hurkacz (Pol) 6-2, 6-3, 3-6, 6-3; Rune (Den) bt 4-Tsitsipas (Gre) 7-5, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4; 7-Rublev bt 11-Sinner (Ita) 1-6, 6-4, 2-0, retd.
Doubles (quarterfinals): 16-Bopanna (Ind) & Middelkoop (Ned) bt Heliovaara (Fin) & Glasspool (GBR) 4-6, 6-4, 7-6 (3).
Women: 1-Swiatek (Pol) bt Zheng (Chn) 6-7(5), 6-0, 6-2; 29-Kudermetova bt 22-Keys (USA) 1-6, 6-3, 6-1.

Clash of the titans

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
PARIS

Novak Djokovic renews his epic 16-year rivalry with Rafael Nadal at the French Open on Tuesday with a semifinal spot at stake and where victory could end the 13-time champion's Roland Garros career.

Nadal, who will turn 36 on Friday, puts his record of 109 wins and just three losses in Paris – since his title-winning debut in 2005 – on the line against the defending champion.

The Spaniard was taken to five sets for only the third time in his tournament history by 21-year-old Felix Auger-Aliassime in the fourth round.

In the immediate aftermath of that victory, Nadal admitted that not only was this year's French Open at stake for him but possibly his entire playing future.

"I know my situation, and I accept it. I can't complain much," said Nadal.

"I am just enjoying the fact that I am here for one more year. And being honest, every match that I play here, I don't know if it's going to be my last at Roland Garros."

Overall, Djokovic leads Nadal 30-28 since their first career meeting at the 2006 French Open.

Nadal has a 19-8 edge on clay and has won seven of the pair's nine meetings in Paris.

Djokovic, however, came out on top in the semifinals at Roland Garros in 2021 on his way to a second title.

With Djokovic deported from Melbourne on the eve of the Australian Open, Nadal seized the opportunity to claim a record-setting 21st Grand Slam title, breaking a tie with Djokovic and Roger Federer.

Rivalry renewed: While Djokovic has an overall head-to-head edge over Nadal, the Spaniard leads on clay. • AP

LIVE TELECAST

Roland Garros 2022: Sony Ten 2 & 3 (SD & HD) & Sony LIV, 1.30 p.m. onwards
Netherlands vs West Indies: 1st ODI, FanCode, 2.30 p.m.
Hockey: Asia Cup 2022, SS Select 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 2.30 p.m. onwards.

IN BRIEF

Swimmer Maana posts 'Indian best' at Canet

NEW DELHI

Olympian Maana Patel set the 'Best Indian time' in the women's 100m backstroke event at the Canet leg of the Mare Nostrum swimming meet in France on Sunday. The 22-year-old clocked 01:03.69, improving her personal best and her own previous 'Best Indian time' of 01:03.77s at the event, clocked in Belgrade last year. PTI

Boult likely to miss first NZ-England Test

WELLINGTON

Trent Boult, who played the IPL 2022 final for Rajasthan Royals on Sunday, will join the New Zealand squad in London but may not play the first Test starting at Lord's on Thursday. Meanwhile, Michael Bracewell was added to the team to cover for the injured Henry Nicholls.

The squad: Kane Williamson (Capt.), Tom Blundell (wk), Trent Boult, Devon Conway, Colin de Grandhomme, Cam Fletcher (wk), Matt Henry, Kyle Jamieson, Tom Latham, Daryl Mitchell, Henry Nicholls, Ajaz Patel, Tim Southee, Neil Wagner, Will Young, Michael Bracewell. ANI

Chelsea's £4.25 billion sale completed

LONDON

Roman Abramovich has completed the sale of Chelsea and related companies for £4.25 billion to an investment group led by Todd Boehly and Clearlake Capital, the League club said on Monday. REUTERS

Celtics to challenge Warriors in NBA Finals

MIAMI

Boston Celtics, sparked by 26 points from Jayson Tatum, advanced to the NBA Finals defeating Miami 100-96 on Sunday, setting up a title showdown against Golden State Warriors. Celtics captured the winner-takes-all match-up to claim the best-of-seven Eastern Conference finals 4-3. AFP

Shubhankar finishes tied 14th at Dutch Open

CROMVOIRT

Shubhankar Sharma completed a good week, laced with 18 birdies, with a tied 14th finish at the Dutch Open. Shubhankar had as many as 18 birdies over four days. But the Indian also carded 13 bogeys. Gaganjeet Bhullar (73, 74) and S.S.P. Chawrasia (74,77) had missed the cut. Frenchman Victor Perez held off Kiwi Ryan Fox in a play-off to win the title. PTI

Salah's goal against City voted season's best

LONDON

The sensational solo run and goal by Liverpool's Mohamed Salah against Manchester City in October 2021 has been voted as the Premier League 2021-2022 'Goal of the Season'. He had also won Golden Boot for the most goals. ANI

Women make case for own IPL

Demonstrate why a parallel tournament would be a viable option

T20 CHALLENGE

P.K. AJITH KUMAR
PUNE

One of the major talking points about women's cricket in India over the last few years has been bench strength, or the lack of it, to be more precise.

All discussions about the launch of a women's IPL have always been around that.

At the fourth edition of the Women's T20 Challenge, which concluded here on Saturday, India's woman cricketers proved that the bench is strong enough. The Women's IPL could strengthen it further.

Franchise interest

There has been a lot of talk about its launch as early as the next season. A few of the IPL franchises have shown interest in forming women's teams; it is said that talent scouts are already on the prowl.

Unfortunately only a few of the uncapped players got the opportunity to play in the T20 Challenge. Given the format, it was expected that most of the new kids would not get a game.

It was also expected that Kiran Navgire would be in the playing eleven for Velocity, after her breathtaking 76-ball 162 not out for Nagaland against Arunachal Pradesh last month.

In her maiden innings at the T20 Challenge, she came up with one of the most destructive batting displays in recent times in the women's game at this level.

Her 34-ball 69 against Trailblazers was the best advertisement for India's bench strength, much like Shafali Varma's 34 off 31 balls in the 2019 edition.

Kiran was probably one of the reasons the final attracted a crowd of over 8,000 in what was the first-ever ticketed T20 Challenge. Those thousands of fans, many of them women and girls, also proved that there is interest in a women's IPL.

If further proof was required, it was provided by the numbers from live streaming: more than six lakh viewed the matches live on multiple occasions.

A teaser

The final was also a trailer of what a women's IPL could be like. The way the young Simran Bahadur, along with the classy South African Laura Wolvaardt, brought Velocity back from the dead to the brink of glory was thrilling.

Showing her mettle: Kiran came up with one of the most destructive batting displays in recent times. • SPORTZPICS/IPL

Mixed air rifle teams falter

SPORTS BUREAU

Shreya Agrawal and Rudrankksh Patil shot 625.6 and placed 14th in mixed air rifle team event in the shooting World Cup in Baku. Elavenil Valarivan and Paarthi Makhija scored 623.5 for the 24th place in a field of 42 teams.

Keum Jihyeon and Park Hajun of Korea beat Andrea Arsovic and Lazar Kovacevic of Serbia 16-10 for the gold.

In men's air rifle team event, Rudrankksh, Dhanush Srikanth and Paarth qualified for the bronze medal match against Croatia with a score of 624.9 in the second stage.

Korea and Australia qualified for the gold match.

The women's air rifle team of Ramita, Elavenil and Shreya topped the first stage of qualification with 944.2.

Felt like jumping onto a hill, says Sreeshankar

Still, he wins his second gold in Greece

STAN RAYAN

The sand pit at the Chania international meet in Greece proved to be a difficult one but long jumper M. Sreeshankar won the gold with a wind-assisted 7.95m (+2.4) on Sunday.

The 23-year-old also had a legal best of 7.81 in the meet, a World Athletics Continental Tour bronze event, where Frenchman Jules Pommery took the silver with 7.73.

It was Sreeshankar's second gold in Greece in five days after his victory (with 8.31m) in Kallithea, Athens, last week.

"It was good... didn't put too much effort into this. Only target was to win," Sreeshankar told *The Hindu* from Athens on Monday.

"But the pit was really bad. They put a lot of sand, felt like jumping onto a hill. Even Emmiyan (long jump great Robert Emmiyan, now a coach in France) made an appeal to the organisers about it. But that didn't help much."

Sreeshankar. • FILE PHOTO

A day before Chania, Sreeshankar got the news that his entry for the Ostrava Golden Spike (a World Athletics Continental Tour gold event, May 31) was confirmed. But it was a bit late.

Forest back in Premier League

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LONDON

Nottingham Forest gained from Levi Colwill's own goal to clinch promotion to the Premier League for the first time in 23 years with a 1-0 win against Huddersfield in the Championship play-off final on Sunday.

In La Liga, Valladolid secured its spot in the top flight after it beat Huesca 3-0 at home and Eibar lost 1-0 at last-place Alcorcon.

Monza in Serie A

Silvio Berlusconi will return to Italian football's top table for the first time since selling AC Milan after his club Monza was promoted to Serie A on Sunday. Monza won a thrilling play-off against Pisa 4-3 to ensure top flight football for the first time in its history.

India needs outright win over Korea

Malaysia lurks with outside chance of making the final

ASIA CUP

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
JAKARTA

Defending champion India will look for an outright win against South Korea in its final Super 4 round-robin league match on Tuesday to book a place in the final of the Asia Cup men's hockey tournament.

India almost clinched the spot on Sunday before Malaysia pulled off a 3-3 draw. India had defeated Japan 2-1 on Saturday. South Korea, with a goal difference of +2, tops the table with India (+1) second.

Japan, with two defeats, is out of the reckoning while Malaysia has an outside chance if it beats Japan by at least two goals and the India-Korea match is drawn. So, on Tuesday, India will look to avoid the permutations and combinations with an outright win.

However, it would be easier said than done as the Koreans have been in good nick in the Super 4s, having drawn 2-2 with Malaysia and beaten Japan 3-1.

The Indians too upped their game after the first two pool games. India beat Indonesia by more than a 15-goal margin in its last pool match to qualify for the Super 4s.

On Sunday, the Indian forward-line of Uttam Singh, S.V. Sunil and Pawan Rajbhar impressed.

Back-line weakness

The midfield has done well so far, but it is the Birendra Lakra-led back-line which needs to pull up its socks. Suraj Karkera has been impressive under the goalpost, making numerous saves.

But against the Koreans the Indians will have to be at their best as their opponents are known for brisk counterattacks.

In the other Super 4 match of the day, Japan will play Malaysia.

CWG or Junior Worlds? Shaili remains undecided

UTHRA GANESAN
CHANDIGARH

Commonwealth Games or Junior World Championships? Experience or another medal? The dilemma continues for long jumper Shaili Singh and her coaches Anju and Robert Bobby George.

The 18-year old Shaili had won silver at the previous edition of the Junior Worlds in 2021 but she is eligible for another shot at the top spot later this year. She is capable too, except that it clashes with the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham.

"Shaili is a very good talent and very young right now but the best thing about her is that she has got scientific training from the age of 14. She performed up to our expectations at the World Juniors last year and we are not overstressing her or putting any pressure to perform because of her age.

"If she does well in domestic meets before final selection we can think of her entry in CWG because more than a medal, we are looking at gaining experience at that level; our target is 2024 and 2028 Olympics," Anju said here. Interestingly, Shaili is yet to breach the 6.50m qualifying mark for the CWG set by the Athletics Federation of India.

Shaili. • FILE PHOTO

UWW endorses WFI selection

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA

United World Wrestling (UWW), the apex global body for the sport, has endorsed the result of the men's freestyle 125kg final bout at the Commonwealth Games selection trials held in Delhi on May 17.

The Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) had referred the contentious bout, in which Mohit Grewal beat Satyender Malik 3-3 on criteria, to the UWW for re-examination.

UWW referee commission president Antonio Silvestri and member Ibrahim Cicioglu saw the video of the bout and concluded that the 3-3 decision in favour of Mohit was a 'correct result.'

Assault on referee

The bout invited a lot of unwanted publicity as Satyender assaulted referee Jagbir Singh after Mohit was declared the winner following a video challenge. The WFI handed Satyender a life ban.

The WFI said that it referred the bout to the UWW as some people took to the social media and alleged that the national body was partial towards Mohit.

The WFI has suspended two officials, Sanjay Kumar and Jitendra Maan, who were on duty during the bout.

Marcelo bids farewell

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
MADRID

Real Madrid captain Marcelo bid a tearful farewell as the players celebrated winning a 14th European Cup at the Santiago Bernabeu.

Marcelo led the celebrations and broke into tears as he was presented to the crowd inside the stadium. The Brazilian, who has been at Real Madrid since 2007, said "it is a wonderful moment in my life, I close a cycle here, at the best club in the world.

"Today is not a day of sadness, it is a day of joy because we have won again, the best competition in the world."

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Jamil named FC Bengaluru United head coach

Khalid Jamil has been appointed FC Bengaluru United head coach for the upcoming season. Jamil was previously associated with Indian Super League (ISL) club NorthEast United FC. He has also worked with East Bengal and Mohun Bagan in the past and was instrumental in leading Aizawl FC to the I-League title in the 2016-17 season.

Suhasa, Aruna and Shahid shine

Suhasa Adiga (102 n.o.), M. Aruna (5/29) and Shahid Shariff (4/12) combined to fashion Bangalore Telephone CC's thumping 70-run victory over BEL SC in the KSCA (Group II) second division league.

The scores:

Hutti Gold Mines CC 87 in 17 overs (Mahaboob Pasha 26, R. Rakesh Singh 3/27) lost to Railway Institute, Krishnarajapuram 88/7 in 18.1 overs (M. Likith Kumar 52 n.o., Vaddi Venu 4/22).

KPTCL Sports Organisation 174/6 in 20 overs (Raghavendra Badiger 43, S. Rajashekar 62, C.S. Bharath Gowda 27, Aman Raj 3/25) bt BEML RC, Bangalore 134/7 in 20 overs (Yashwant 30, M.K. Srinivas 40).

Bangalore Telephone CC 169/7 in 20 overs (Suhasa Adiga 102 n.o., Syed Mudaseer Ahmed 36) bt BEL SC 99 in 15.3 overs (Mayank Vishwakarma 32, M. Chitti Babu 41, M. Aruna 5/29, Shahid Shariff 4/12).

BEML SC, KGF 134 in 19.3 overs (Rajan 47, S. Yuvaraj 29, Deepak Singh 4/19) lost to ADE SC 138/2 in 17.1 overs (C. Sanjay Ashwin 70, K. Sunil Kumar 36 n.o.).

LRDE SC 198/4 in 20 overs (S. Darshan 27, Pavan Kumar 46, Hardik Raj 74 n.o., M. Jayasurya 31) bt BW/SSB Employees Association 134/7 in 20 overs (Prahas S. Nairy 61, Hardik Raj 4/20).

HAL SC 164/4 in 20 overs (Dheeraj J.Gowda 31, C. Rithin Christy 68 n.o.) bt Karnataka Postal RC 100 in 16.2 overs (K.R. Puttu 3/11, Rahul Prasanna 3/14).

Indian Air Force, Jalahalli 155/4 in 20 overs (Piyush Goswami 57, Dixit Madhav Naik 75 n.o., Sachin R. Prakash 3/19) lost to LIC S&RC 160/4 in 17.2 overs (H. Sarvesh Raju 61 n.o., K.H. Manjunath 31).

Nishad nets BTM's winner

Nishad Nagaraj scored the winner as BTM FC edged Blitz FC in the BDFA A-division league championship, here on Monday.

The results: A-div: BTM FC 1 (Nishad Nagaraj 46) bt Blitz FC 0; **B-div:** Tilak Memorial FC 2 (P.P. Praveen 24, Anil Shankar 50) bt Sun Rise FC 0.

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